The South Carolina Court of Appeals

Lazarus Brannon, #227847, James Foye, #211523, Ray Gadsden, #187527, Chuck Jackson, #266425, Joe Pannell, #89592, Henry Rivers, #219118, Jonathan Singleton, #287670, Frank Anderson, #282800, Sherman Austin, #300028, Michael Baylor, #265682, Darryel Beasley, #222388, Gladstone Cummings, #267450, Jose Flores, #240563, Reginald Geddis, #183851, Wayne Harlen, #245705, Dennis Knight, #286981, Ricky Libby, #274681, Michael McFarland, #266870, Thomas Miles, #246763, Anthony Murphy, #295393, Ignacio Rivera, #300424, Roosevelt Scott, Jr., #275631, Kenneth Simmons, #278911, Samuel Simmons, #302393, Timothy Smith, #296539, Jeffrey Spears, #281697, Appellants,

v.

South Carolina Department of Corrections, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2025-002521

ORDER

On December 15, 2025, Douglas H. Westbrook, Esquire, on behalf of Appellants appealed individual orders filed by the Administrative Law Court (ALC) on November 10, 2025. The orders dismissed Appellants' appeals to the ALC on the basis Attorney Westbrook was not able to provide sufficient evidence to establish he had permission to file the appeal.

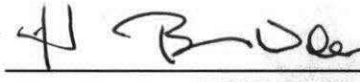
On December 17, 2025, Attorney Westbrook, moved to be relieved as counsel for Chuck Jackson, Jonathan Singleton, Frank Anderson, Sherman Austin, Michael Baylor, Darryel Beasley, Gladstone Cummings, Jose Flores, Reginald Geddis, Wayne Harlen, Dennis Knight, Ricky Libby, Michael McFarland, Thomas Miles, Anthony Murphy, Ignacio Rivera, Roosevelt Scott, Jr., Kenneth Simmons,

Timothy Smith, and Jeffrey Spears (the named appellants). Attorney Westbrook asserted he filed this motion because of his "continued inability to locate and communicate with these named appellants," which constituted "good cause" for withdrawal from representation pursuant to Rule 1.16(b)(7), RPC, Rule 407, SCACR. Attorney Westbrook did not describe the efforts he made to locate the named appellants; he did, however, explain he mailed his motion to be relieved to each of the named appellants' last known address.

Attorney Westbrook also sought to hold the briefing timelines in abeyance until any cases remaining at the ALC related this appeal have been filed with the court, which would allow all cases to be briefed and considered as one consolidated matter.

No returns were filed.

After careful consideration, Attorney Westbrook's motion to be relieved as counsel for the named appellants is denied without prejudice.[1] However, we grant the request to hold the briefing timelines in abeyance until any related appeals have been filed. The parties shall provide this court with a status update every sixty days.



C.J.

FOR THE COURT

Columbia, South Carolina

cc:
Douglas H. Westbrook, Esquire
Lake Eric Summers, Esquire
Christina Catoe Bigelow, Esquire

FILED
Feb 03 2026

[1] We encourage Attorney Westbrook to be diligent in his efforts to locate the named appellants.