

State of South Carolina
in the Supreme Court

Alfonzo J. Howard #333399
Appellant

v.

State of South Carolina
Respondent

Motion for Appointment
of Appellate Counsel

Appellate case No.
2026-001371

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JUL 20 2026

S.C. SUPREME COURT

Comes now the Appellant, Alfonzo J. Howard, pro se and respectfully moves this court for appointment of appellate counsel pursuant to Rule 71.1 SCRPC and the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules.

Grounds:
Appellant is indigent and incarcerated at Ridgeland Correctional Institution. He cannot afford to retain counsel. This appeal raises significant constitutional issues,

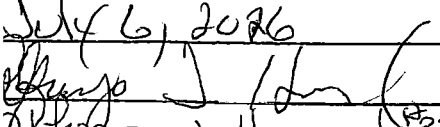
including:
Actual innocence based on newly discovered evidence (SLED Sexual Assault Examination Protocol form received February 10, 2025);
Due process violation arising from the trial court signing the final order of Dismissal on May 1, 2026, before considering Appellant's timely response filed on May 6, 2026;

Application of equitable tolling, successive PCR standards under §17-27-90, and ineffective assistance of counsel. Appellant has been repeatedly denied appointed counsel in the trial court proceedings, which contributed to the prececedural unfairness now on appeal.

The interests of justice require the appointment of competent appellate counsel to properly brief and argue the complex legal and factual issues in the case.

Prayer for Relief

Appellate respectfully requests that this Honorable Court appoint appellate counsel (Office of Appellate Defense or other qualified counsel to represent him in this appeal.

Respectfully Submitted
July 6, 2026

J. Howard #333399
PO Box 2039
Ridgeland, S.C. 29936

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME
THIS 6 DAY OF July,
2026. Virginia Roberson
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES April 21, 2031

