

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

APPEAL FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT
Administrative Law Judge Crystal M. Rookard

RECEIVED

JUL 24 2026

ALC CASE NO. 25-ALJ-04-0744-AP
Appellate Case No. 2026-000747

SC Court of Appeals

RONNIE SWOFFORD JR., #218281,

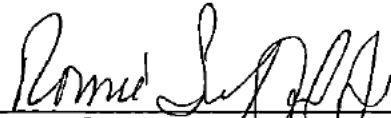
APPELLANT

V.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS,

RESPONDENT.

FINAL BRIEF OF APPELLANT


Ronnie Swofford Jr. #218281
Kershaw Corr. Inst SB-12
4848 Goldmine Hwy
Kershaw, S.C. 29067
APPELLANT

S.C.D.C.
Office of General Counsel
4444 Broad River Road
PO Box 21787
Columbia, S.C. 29221
RESPONDENT

Honorable Crystal M. Rookard
S.C. Administrative Law Judge
Edgar A. Brown Building, Suite 224
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, S.C. 29201
COPY SENT

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STATEMENT OF ISSUE ON APPEAL

DID THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT ERR IN RULING THE APPELLANT'S APPEAL WAS PART OF A DIFFERENT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BECAUSE "THE DEPARTMENT HAS SINCE PAID APPELLANT AND THUS ANY AND ALL CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF APPELLANT'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PRISON INDUSTRIES PROGRAM WERE SETTLED" MAKING IT A CONTRACTUAL DISPUTE WHICH THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT DOES NOT HAVE JURISDICTION?

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

In April 2024 the appellant tried to file a grievance on the Prison Industries Enhancement Program for back pay wages owed from the Broad River Corr. Inst. P.I. from 2003 - 2006 and from the Tyger River Corr. Inst. P.I. from 2021 - 2024 pursuant to Torrence v S.C. Department of Corrections (June 2021, Cert. Denied 2022). The Appellant was well versed with the S.C. Department of Corrections grievance policy GA-01.12 "Inmate Grievance System" (updated September 1, 2023 last amended) which states:

7. Grievable Issues: only one issue, or disciplinary conviction may be addressed on each grievance form. The following issues will be considered grievable.

7.1 Department policies, directives, or conditions which directly affect the inmate.

13. Steps in the Grievance Process:

13.2 regarding Prison Industries Pay regarding the two (2) years to file when the issue arose (this was apart of the amended portion dated September 1, 2023).

The appellant spoke with the Tyger River Corr. Inst. Inmate Grievance Coordinator Mrs. Crumly in April 2024 to clarify about filing two (2) prevailing wage issues on one (1) grievance form since the appellant had worked for two (2) different PIE programs at two (2) different Institutions for two (2) different companies, on two (2) different sentences. The IGC Mrs. Crumly stated "NO", because the policy prohibits that action, and because that any grievance filed in regards to a different Institutions has to be forwarded to that Institution. The appellant knew the hours and amount owed from Tyger River Corr. Inst. PIE program and filed a grievance in regards to Tyger River Corr. Inst. PIE program on April 12, 2024 generating grievance No. TYRCI-0131-24, mean while the appellant reached out to get discovery for the hours worked from the Broad River Corr. Inst. PIE program between 2003 - 2006. The appellant met with Mr. Todd Darwin of the Holcombe & Bomar, P.A. Law Office, 100 Dunbar Street, Suite 200, Spartanburg, S.C. 29306 who was representing the Office of General Counsel (SCDC) to settle PIECP claims. The appellant declined the offer made by Mr. Darwin but was informed that SCDC

owed roughly \$21,000.00. The appellant asked Mr. Darwin about the Broad River Corr. Inst. PIECP pay claim, but Mr. Darwin stated "NO" that Tyger River Corr. Inst. pay claim is the only settlement authority he had. The appellant met with the Tyger River Corr. Inst. Warden Jonathan Nance to settle the "Tyger River Corr. Inst." pay claim on January 27, 2025 for the amount of \$18,000.00. Warden Nance stated "that resolves your Tyger River grievance". The money was placed into the appellant's Cooper Trust Fund Account February 2025.

The appellant received notice from Social Security in which the appellant's print out for years works from 1990 until 2012 showed the appellant earned \$42,000.00 from 2003 - 2006 and with that information, the appellant was still within the two (2) year statute of filing for the Broad River Corr. Inst. PIECP pay claim. S.C.D.C. policy mandates that each grievance matter has to be filed individually but not AT the same time. The appellant then filed a grievance with only Broad River Corr. Inst. PIECP pay claim. the IGC Mrs. Crumly filed the appellant's grievance that was sent to Broad River Corr. Inst. and a the grievance No. BRCI-0381-25 was generated on April 30, 2025. On October 7, 2025 the appellant's grievance was denied stating the appellant settled all claims relating to prevailing wage pay on January 27, 2025. The Appellant filed a timely appeal, the S.C.D.C. filed a Motion to Dismiss on January 14, 2026, the appellant filed a Motion to Dismiss the Respondent's Motion to Dismiss with Exhibits, and the Appellant filed his Initial Brief to the Administrative Law Court with exhibits respectively on January 27th and the 28th of 2026. The Administrative Law Court filed an order on February 18, 2026 granting the S.C.D.C. order to dismiss because the Department has "since" paid appellant and that this matter is not properly before this court, due to the appellant is challenging a contract he entered into with the department. The appellant timely filed an appeal to this Honorable Court.

The appellant has filed a copy of the Respondent's Motion to Dismiss, the Appellant's Motion to Oppose the Respondent's Motion to Dismiss, the Appellant's Initial Brief, and the Administrative Law Courts Order as the Record of Appeal for this Honorable Courts convenience when the Appeal was filed.

STANDARD OF REVIEW

S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-610(B) provides the general standard of review for appeals from the Administrative Law Court:

The review of the administrative law judge's order must be confined to the record. The reviewing tribunal may affirm the decision or remand the case for further proceedings; or it may reverse or modify the decision if the substantive rights of the petitioner have been prejudiced because the finding, conclusion, or decision is:

- (a) in violation of constitutional or statutory provisions;
- (b) in excess of the statutory authority of the agency;
- (c) made upon unlawful procedure;
- (d) affected by other error of law;
- (e) clearly erroneous in view of the reliable, probative and substantial evidence on the whole record; or
- (f) arbitrary or capricious or characterized by abuse of discretion or clearly unwarranted exercise of discretion.

In an appeal of a final decision of an administrative agency, the standard of appellate review is whether the ALC's findings are supported by substantial evidence. S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-610(B). "Substantial evidence" is evidence which, considering the record as a whole, would allow a reasonable mind to reach the same conclusion that administrative agency reached. Hendley v. S.C. State Budget & Control Bd., 325 S.C. 413, 481 S.E.2d 159 (Ct. App. 1996). A reviewing court shall not substitute its own judgment for that of the ALC as to findings of fact, but it may reverse or modify decisions that are controlled by errors of law or that are clearly erroneous in view of the substantial evidence on the record as a whole. Id.

ARGUMENT

THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT DID ERR BY RULING THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS RECENTLY PAID THE APPELLANT FOR MONEY OWED FROM THE BROAD RIVER CORR. INST. PAY CLAIM FROM 2003 - 2006, WHEN THE APPELLANT SETTLED A DIFFERENT GRIEVANCE FROM THE TYGER RIVER CORR. INST. PAY CLAIM IN 2025, THUS REMOVING THE JURISDICTION THE "ALC" HAD BY STATING THE AGREEMENT WAS A CONTRACTUAL MATTER.:

The Appellant believes the "ALC" based their decision to Dismiss the Appellant's Appeal because "The Department represents that the parties entered a settlement agreement regarding Appellant's claim, and THE DEPARTMENT HAS SINCE PAID APPELLANT". The Appellant believes the "ALC" has the dates confused due to the similarities of the month and day the TYRCI-0131-24 settlement agreement was signed on January 27, 2025, and when the Appellant's Motion to Oppose the Respondent's Motion to Dismiss was filed January 27, 2026 (pg 1, ALC Order). The Funds for TYRCI-0131-24 settlement agreement was deposited on February 7, 2025, the "ALC" Order granting the Respondent's Motion to Dismiss was signed February 18, 2026. It appears the "ALC" believed the funds were deposited to the Appellant's account on February 7, 2026 which is why the "ALC" used the phrase "The Department has since paid Appellant", that would be eleven (11) days later which is not actually correct.

The "ALC" never stated the Appellant failed to implicate a State-created Liberty or Property Interest, but since the "ALC" believed the Department has since paid Appellant; that the settlement agreement was satisfied with payment which would now be considered a contract dispute. The Appellant believes this is not a Contract dispute, and the specific language is vague and extremely ambiguous but that does not mean the Appellant did not understand what the contract says. Importantly, the Settlement Agreement (pg 1, 3rd para) states "This Final release of all claims shall be interpreted and governed in accordance with laws of the State of South Carolina".

S.C. Code 24-3-430 (H) is the controlling statute of Law that directs policies and procedures matters through the S.C.D.C. Inmate Grievance System in which an inmate must file in order to receive back pay wages for work in the PIE program that was established in Torrence v S.C. Department of Corrections 433, S.C. 224,857 SE2d 549 by the S.C. Supreme Court.

S.C.D.C. did not include the Broad River Corr. Inst. back pay wages in the Appellant's TYRCI-0131-24 settlement agreement. S.C.D.C. recently said in their Initial Brief of Respondent to this Honorable Court that "Subsequently, In April 2025, Appellant submitted a grievance seeking prevailing wage pay for work ALLEGEDLY performed at Broad River Corr. Inst. from 2003 - 2006 (See Statement of the case pg 2, Initial Brief of Respondent) which indicates the Respondent does not know if the Appellant in fact worked in the PIE program at BRCI or not."

Additionally, the S.C.D.C. states "The Settlement Agreement did not reference any grievance number and was completely separate from from any grievance submitted by appellant" (pg 5 Initial Brief of Respondent). Exhibit G-1, the Step 1 grievance filed on April 12, 2024 for the Tyger River Corr. Inst. PIE program back pay wages was Processed and Returned because of a Duplicate, further instructions mandate the Appellant follow GA-01.12 Inmate Grievance System to submit a Request to Staff Member (form 19-11) to the Branch Chief within 10 days of a grievance being returned to the grieving party. S.C.D.C. at this point believed the TYRCI-0131-24 grievance could go no further and is relying on that fact, allows the Respondent to say the settlement agreement was completely separate from any grievance submitted by the Appellant. However, S.C.D.C. must have forgotten that the Appellant filed a Request to Staff Member (form 19-11) to the HQ Branch Chief "Grievances" to Felecia McKie that reopened the TYRCI-0131-24 grievance which was settled in January 2025 (see Exhibit G-2). The Appellant then timely filed a grievance regarding the BRCI-0381-25 back pay wages owed from 2003-2006 (see Exhibit G-3).

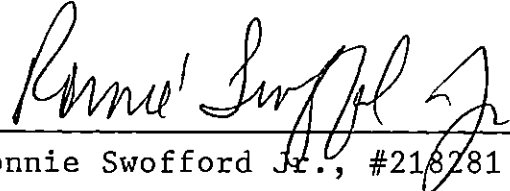
The Appellant has also included Exhibit G-4, a blank grievance form that will show on the back under the Instructions that #3 "Only one (1) issue is to be addressed on each form. Exhibit G-5 will show

an example of when an inmate files multiple issues on one grievance form. This is prohibited in the Inmate Grievance System and that is why the Appellant filed one (1) grievance at Tyger River Corr. Inst. generating TYRCI-0131-24 that was processed and returned but later reopened and settled in January 2025 and then the Appellant filed a second grievance that was forwarded to BRCI generating BRCI-0381-25 which created the State-created Liberty and/or Property Interest of money owed from 2003-2006. These procedures were followed within the guidelines of the GA-01.12 Inmate Grievance System Policies and Procedures. The Respondent did not nor does not acknowledge the Appellant worked at Broad River Corr. Inst. from 2003 - 2006 by their own words "Allegedly Performed" and therefore could not have settled all back pay wages owed. The Vague and Ambiguous language used in the settlement agreement used by the Respondent is simply trying not to pay the Appellant what the Courts have ruled the Respondents must pay. The Appellant believes that the settlement agreement only paid the TYRCI-0131-24 grievance claim, in which barred the Appellant from trying to claim other money that may be owed from that actual grievance. The Appellant followed every statute, case law, and all S.C.D.C. policies and procedures to establish the facts in this case. The "ALC" simply has the dates confused and since the "ALC" states the "Department has since paid the Appellant" it is now interpreted this is a Contrsctual matter. It is highly plausible that if in fact the dates were not an issue the decision would have been different because the State-created Liberty and/or Property Interst would not have been addressed thus allowing the "ALC" to rule in the Appellant's favor. This is a violation of several substantive rights of the Appellant under S.C. Code Ann 1-23-610(B). Given all the facts and substantial evidence provided the Appellant considering the record as a whole, no reasonable mind would reach the conclusion that the Administrative Court reached.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, this Court should reverse, modify the decision this is controlled by errors of law or that are cleary erroneous in view of the substantial evidence on the record as a whole.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ronnie Swofford Jr., #218281

Kershaw Corr. Inst. SB-12

4848th Goldmine Hwy

Kershaw, S.C. 29067

July 21, 2026

Date

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

INMATE GRIEVANCE FORM

STEP 1

EX: G-1

INMATE NAME: <u>Ronnie C. Swofford Jr.</u>	OFFICE USE ONLY
SCDC NUMBER: <u>218281</u>	Grievance No. <u>TYRCI-0131-24</u>
INSTITUTION: <u>TYRCI</u>	Code: General <u>My/AM</u>
HOUSING UNIT: <u>U1 - 212</u>	Policy _____
WORK ASSIGNMENT: <u>Prison Industries 3</u>	Disc. Hear. _____
	Class. _____
	PREA _____
	Date Received <u>4/12/24</u>
	IGC Initials <u>JS</u>

STATEMENT OF GRIEVANCE (Indicate the date of incident, and if the grievance is a challenge to SCDC Policy, specify which policy. Include supporting documentation and attach answered RTSM or Kiosk reference number.) I am currently employed in Tyghe River Correctional Institutions Private Sector Prison Industries (PIE) Program and have been since 2021. Prevailing Wages are mandated by S.C. Code of Law 24-3-430 (b) And 24-3-315 which states no inmate participating in the Program may earn less than the prevailing wage for work of a similar nature in the Private Sector "24-3-315". The rates of pay and other conditions of employment are not less than those paid and provided for work of a similar nature in the locality in which the work is performed. See also Federal Law 18 USCA 1761(c)(2) which states "have in connection with such work, received wages at which is not less than that paid for work of a similar nature in the locality in which the work was performed. I have a protected liberty interest in the money I make while paying child support and taxes. In addition the S.C. Dept of Corrections has admitted that pay has been withheld. In recent attempts to settle with inmates and/or demand from other legal jurisdictions to now legally calculate the monies owed to other inmates after initially ~~stating~~ ^{stating} the allegations that inmates were paid the exact amount they were supposed to, therefore opening the door for a new grievance to the merits.

Grievant Signature

Date

ACTION REQUESTED: I Be paid All back pay owed for services rendered during my 2 1/2 years of employment (2021 - 2024 - now) with out reprisal from the Department of Corrections

ACTION TAKEN BY IGC: ☐ PROCESSED ☐ UNPROCESSED ☒ OTHER

This grievance is being Processed (Reviewed) and Returned (No Wardens Decision) for, but not limited to, the following reason(s): it is a duplicate of TYRCI-0423-23 which was also processed and returned. Additionally, consistent with SCDC GA-01.12 Inmate Grievance System, you may submit a paper Request to Staff Member (Form 19-11) to the Branch Chief within 10 days of a grievance being returned to you, with a copy of the grievance containing the staff's comments requesting to have the decision reconsidered. You cannot file a grievance against the Inmate Grievance Coordinator for returning a grievance to you.

IGC Signature

Date

(CONTINUE ON REVERSE SIDE)

FWD: TO HQ BRANCH CHIEF "Grievances"

EX:G-2

RECEIVED

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
REQUEST TO STAFF MEMBER

APR 22 2024

INMATE GRIEVANCE

TO: STAFF NAME: HQ - BRANCH CHIEF		STAFF TITLE: HQ - BRANCH CHIEF	DATE: 4/19/24
INMATE NAME: Ronnie Swafford Jr.		SCDC #: 218281	
INSTITUTION: Tyger River C.I.	DORM/SIDE/BED: U11-217-A	HOUSING TYPE: ☐ RHU ☐ R&E ☐ INFIRMARY ☐ SSR ☐ DEATH ROW ☐ ASSISTED LIVING UNIT (ALU) ☒ N/A	
REASON FOR PAPER REQUEST: ☐ PREA ☐ MEDICAL ☐ MENTAL HEALTH ☐ DENTAL ☐ MEDICAL COPAY ☐ MEDICAL RECORDS ☒ KIOSK INACCESSIBLE (EXPLAIN): Grievance Copied STATES I need to use form			
YOU MUST USE THE KIOSK IF YOUR PAPER REQUEST DOES NOT MEET ANY OF THE CRITERIA ABOVE. 19-11			

DEAR BRANCH CHIEF:

I initially filed a grievance in reference to the prevailing wage issue. I WAS denied due to the fact I was told I received my pay in accordance with SCDC, and only 2 pay periods. Recently SCDC has Admitted fault and now making settlements with inmates because in fact there is wages owed. The language I have now used is different, AND BECAUSE SCDC has admitted money is owed THIS grievance is different in language + merits.

DISPOSITION BY STAFF MEMBER: I ASK that this grievance be processed AND ruled upon.

TYRDI-0131-24 was reopened for review.
Please note a step 2 Grievance decision was given on or about 10/26/23 in TYRDI-0423-23. See 10/16/24 memo.

DATE:

10/16/24

STAFF SIGNATURE:

Quellie

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4/10/2025 911 Am

4/11/2025 8:08 Am
Author (STAFF)

I do not see a

Record of A grievance in

Reference to Broad River. I

See on Open grievance (TYRCE

0131-24 in reference to hours

worked at Tyger River, but not
Baker

INMATE GRIEVANCE FORM

STEP 1

APR 30 REC'D

BRCT - 0381 - 25

INMATE NAME: <u>Ronnie C. Swafford Jr.</u>	OFFICE USE ONLY
SCDC NUMBER: <u>218281</u>	Grievance No. <u>44021-0254-25</u>
INSTITUTION: <u>TYRCI</u>	Code: General <u>my/w3</u>
HOUSING UNIT: <u>U6 - 10 - A</u>	Policy _____
WORK ASSIGNMENT: <u>Dorm</u>	Disc. Hear. _____
	Class. _____
	PREA _____
	Date Received <u>4/14/25</u>
	IGC Initials <u>OC</u>

STATEMENT OF GRIEVANCE (Indicate the date of incident, and if the grievance is a challenge to SCDC Policy, specify which policy. Include supporting documentation and attach answered RTSM or Kiosk reference number.) Pursuant to the S.C. Court of Appeals it has been determined that inmates are to be paid the prevailing wages mandated by SC Code of Law 24-3-430 (d) and 24-3-315 which STATES "no inmate participating in the Program may earn less than the prevailing wage for work of a similar nature in the Private Sector, See Also Federal Law 18 USC 1761 (c)(2). From 2003-2006 I worked at Broad River Corr. Inst. PIE Program for "RM Design, Inc." I had over 5200 hours at pay rates starting at \$5.15 and up to \$6.00 an hour. Pursuant to the SCDC inmate policy, Inmate Grievance System GA-01.12 Section 7 "Grievable issues". Inmates can only have (1) one issue or Disc Appeal per Grievance form. My recent Grievance in regards to prevailing wages at Tyger River Corr. Inst is closed, and so now I am exercising the policy to start on a different claim. I have a protected Liberty Interest in any of my money.

Grievant Signature

Date

ACTION REQUESTED:

I Am Asking For ALL back pay wages owed For Services rendered during my years at Broad River Corr. Inst. for RM Design Inc from 2003-2006, without reprisal from the Dept. of Corrections

ACTION TAKEN BY IGC:

☐ PROCESSED☐ UNPROCESSED☐ OTHER

Closed at Tyger River forwarded to Broad River, 4/14/25

IGC Signature

Date

(CONTINUE ON REVERSE SIDE)

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

INMATE GRIEVANCE FORM

STEP 1

EX: G-4

INMATE NAME: _____ SCDC NUMBER: _____ INSTITUTION: _____ HOUSING UNIT: _____ WORK ASSIGNMENT: _____	OFFICE USE ONLY Grievance No. _____ Code: General _____ Policy _____ Disc. Hear. _____ Class. _____ PREA _____ Date Received _____ IGC Initials _____
--	--

STATEMENT OF GRIEVANCE (Indicate the date of incident, and if the grievance is a challenge to SCDC Policy, specify which policy. Include supporting documentation and attach answered RTSM or Kiosk reference number.)

OVER



Grievant Signature

Date

ACTION REQUESTED:

ACTION TAKEN BY IGC: ☐ PROCESSED ☐ UNPROCESSED ☐ OTHER

IGC Signature

Date

(CONTINUE ON REVERSE SIDE)

WARDEN'S DECISION AND REASON:

Warden Signature

Date

☐ I accept the Warden's decision and consider the matter closed.

☐ I do not accept the Warden's decision and wish to appeal.

Grievant Signature

Date

IGC Signature

Date

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING STEP 1 GRIEVANCE FORM

1. An informal resolution shall be attempted prior to the filing of Step 1 by sending an Inmate Request to Staff Member (RTSM) form or Kiosk reference number to the appropriate supervisor. A copy of the answered RTSM must be attached to the grievance when the grievance is filed.
2. Complete each section in its entirety writing only in the space provided for inmate use. No additional pages will be permitted.
3. Only one (1) issue is to be addressed on each form.
4. Submit the completed form by placing it in the Grievance Box at your institution within eight (8) working days of the date on the RTSM response; policy grievances can be filed at any time. Disciplinary and Classification Review appeals must be submitted within five (5) working days of the hearing/review. Do not write in the space provided for the Warden's response.
5. If you are not satisfied with the Warden's decision, you may appeal to the appropriate responsible official within five (5) days of your receipt of the Warden's decision, by placing your Step 2 appeal form in the Grievance Box at your institution.

COPY

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

EX: G-5

INMATE GRIEVANCE FORM

STEP 1

MAR 18 2026

INMATE NAME: <u>Mark Wingo</u> <u>m</u>	OFFICE USE ONLY
SCDC NUMBER: <u>269107</u>	Grievance No. <u>KRCI-0283-21</u>
INSTITUTION: <u>KCI</u>	Code: General
HOUSING UNIT: <u>RIU - 75</u>	Policy
WORK ASSIGNMENT:	Disc. Hear. <u>✓ 855: 811</u>
	Class. <u>case 85: 26</u>
	PREA <u>3-17-26</u>
	Date Received <u>3-26-26</u>
	IGC Initials <u>enm</u>

STATEMENT OF GRIEVANCE (Indicate the date of incident, and if the grievance is a challenge to SCDC Policy, specify which policy. Include supporting documentation and attach answered RTSM or Kiosk reference number.)

On 3/17/26 I was found guilty of SCDC offense 855 and 817... Medical has been OUT of my mental Health pills for over 2 1/2 weeks now... I was not in my right "thoughts" during this alleged incident, to the present date 3/18/26 I request you overturn the convictions of both 817... and 855... Due to this error on behalf of mental Health provider.

*Please confirm with Medical staff to verify I'm telling the truth!!

Mark Wingo 3/18/26
Grievant Signature Date

ACTION REQUESTED:

overturn conviction of 817 & 855
restore all privileges

ACTION TAKEN BY IGC: ☐ PROCESSED ☒ UNPROCESSED ☐ OTHER

This grievance is being Processed (Reviewed) and Returned (No Warden's Decision) for; but not limited to, the following reason(s) you have cited too many issues on one (1) Grievance form. The back of this form specifically states, "only one (1) issue is to be addressed on each form". You have addressed several different issues on this grievance form. You may re-file addressing one (1) issue per grievance form. You must file 2 separate grievance forms, one per charge offense. Please ensure you list hearing date, charge offense and case # on each form, for each charge. Return by 3/26/26.

Deane Miller 3/20/26
IGC Signature Date

(CONTINUE ON REVERSE SIDE)

WARDEN'S DECISION AND REASON:

Warden Signature

Date

☐ I accept the Warden's decision and consider the matter closed.

☐ I do not accept the Warden's decision and wish to appeal.

Grievant Signature

Date

IGC Signature

Date

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING STEP 1 GRIEVANCE FORM

1. An informal resolution shall be attempted prior to the filing of Step 1 by sending an Inmate Request to Staff Member (RTSM) form or Kiosk reference number to the appropriate supervisor. A copy of the answered RTSM must be attached to the grievance when the grievance is filed.
2. Complete each section in its entirety writing only in the space provided for inmate use. No additional pages will be permitted.
3. Only one (1) issue is to be addressed on each form.
4. Submit the completed form by placing it in the Grievance Box at your institution within eight (8) working days of the date on the RTSM response; policy grievances can be filed at any time. Disciplinary and Classification Review appeals must be submitted within five (5) working days of the hearing/review. Do not
5. If you are not satisfied with the Warden's decision, you may appeal to the appropriate responsible official within five (5) days of your receipt of the Warden's decision, by placing your Step 2 appeal form in the Grievance Box at your institution.

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

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JUL 24 2026

APPEAL FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT
Crystal M. Rookard, Administrative Law Judge

SC Court of Appeals

Appellate Case No. 2026-000747
ALC No. 25-ALJ-04-0744-AP

RONNIE SWOFFORD JR., #218281,

APPELLANT

V.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS,

RESPONDENT

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the Appellant have served the Appellant's Final Brief and Designation of Matter to be included on the Record on Appeal to the below listed addresses postage prepaid and placed in the U.S. mail on July 21, 2026.

SOUTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS
CLERK OF COURT
PO Box 11629
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29211


RONNIE SWOFFORD JR #218281
Kershaw Corr. Inst. SB-12
4848 Goldmine Hwy
Kershaw, S.C. 29067

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
SCDC
4444 Broad River Road
PO Box 21787
Columbia, S.C. 29221

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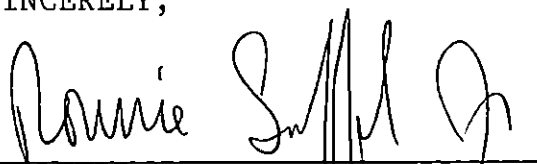
SC Court of Appeals

HONORABLE CRYSTAL M. ROOKARD
S.C. ADMINISTRATIVE LAW COURT
Edgar A. Brown Building, Suite 224
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, S.C. 29201

DEAR CLERK,

I, THE APPELLANT IN THIS CASE CAN NOT BOUND ANY COPIES,
OR SUPPLY ANY TYPE OR COLORED PAPER FOR IT IS CONSIDERED CONTRABAND
AT THIS FACILITY. BEING AN INMATE I CAN ONLY BE ALLOWED TO DO CERTAIN
THINGS. I DID HOWEVER SEND AN EXTRA COPY OF THE REQUESTED MATERIALS.
THE ORIGINAL RECORD OF APPEAL AND THE FINAL BRIEF. I HOPE I DID
EVERYTHING CORRECTLY. IF POSSIBLE CAN YOU SEND A CLOCK STAMPED COPY
FOR MY RECORDS. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

SINCERELY,



RONNIE SWOFFORD JR #218281
KERSHAW CORR. INST. SB_12
4848 GOLDMINE HWY
KERSHAW , S.C. 29067

RECEIVED

JUL 24 2026

SC Court of Appeals

JULY 21st 2026

RONNIE C. SWOFFORD JR. #218281
Kershaw Corr. Inst. SB-12
4848 GOLDMINE Hwy
Kershaw, S.C. 29067

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SC Court of Appeals

THE Honorable Jenny A. Hitchings
S.C. Court of Appeals, Clerk of Court
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia, S.C. 29211

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