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SC Court of Appeals

BRIEF OF APPELLANT

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

APPEAL FROM FLORENCE COUNTY

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

WILLIAM H. SEALS JR, CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

CASE NO#2025-001126

RACHEL BUIE, PRO SE

APPELLANT

V.

FLORENCE HOUSING AUTHORITY

RESPONDENT

INITIAL BRIEF OF APPELLANT

On May the 13th, 2025 my case was dismissed, due to me and my attorney not appearing in court. Prior to my court date, I called my attorney several times and texted her and I did not receive an answer. I then contacted the clerk of court to inquire about my court date and I was told that no information could be released to me, being that I had an attorney. However, I contacted the Court of Appeal in Columbia and I was instructed; as to, what I needed to do to relieve her as my counsel, being that she failed to comply with me concerning my court date. It was also brought to my attention that she had been electronically notified about my court date and I was emailed a copy of it proving that she was notified, and because of her failure to assure me of my court date, my family and I were ejected from our home, after the magistrate judge ordered my family and I a Bond to stay until my case could be heard on October 10, 2024. Upon arriving home on May 29, 2025, is when I walked up on an ejectment letter on my door,

given us 72 hours to vacate the premises. I didn't know until after we moved why we had been ejected and it was because of failure to appear in court. A court date that I was never notified of.

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Arguments;

- 1: Why would I continue to pursue my case, if I really didn't need my case to be heard?
- 2: How did I remain living in my Unit the time in which I lived there, if I owed that amount of money?
- 3: Why was some of the balance reared over to my rent, even after it had been said that it was a discrepancy in there factoring of the amount by the prior executive board members.

Conclusion: This misunderstanding of what I owed derived from me questioning as to why was I being charged the amount of money that I was being charged, being that I am disable and on a fixed income. Granted my daughters was working off and on and I really didn't know exactly what they had been grossing but I would turn in what was being told to me. I begin to try to resolve the matter but the staff did not try help me understand why. I was taken into a meeting by 2 of the staff and they said I could pay as low as a \$1 to \$10 dollars until it got paid. How would this amount of money get paid that I'm being held accountable for, paying the amount that was said I owed. This bill came up when I was in the process of transferring out of June Lane, and to everywhere else I transferred to, until it followed me to 209 E. High Hampton Road. Even when my 2 daughters had

moved out that was working, I was still made to pay rent for them working for a month a 2 after they moved out, even though the staff knew that they weren't residing there. That's why I filed an appeal also. I been reaching out for help. Again I'm not writing this for sympathy but for and understanding, and How did this appear when I started questioning the amount that I'm being charged and why did it appear when it was time for me to transfer from June Lane, until it followed me to 209 E. High Hampton road, to the point me and my family became homeless because I wasn't notified about the very court date that I waited for so my case could be heard. The magistrate office knows how many times I showed up at court even when my attorney didn't show up in the past, even when she didn't call me and let me know that she wasn't going to make it. I still showed us. Please take this in consideration.

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1. Why would I continue to request a date to have my case heard, if I wasn't standing by faith knowing all I ever wanted was to have my questions answered by FHA.
2. Why would I not show up in court, if I had been properly notified?

Conclusion.....6

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