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Aug 03 2026

SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
WCC File No. 2207041

Appellate Case No. 2025-001248

Walter Hoover, Claimant, Appellant

v.

Tractor Supply Company, Employer, and Starr Specialty Insurance Company, Carrier,
Defendants, of which Starr Specialty Insurance Company is the Respondent.

**RESPONDENT'S REPLY TO APPELLANT'S RETURN IN OPPOSITION TO
RESPONDENTS' MOTION TO DISMISS**

Claudia J. Piechota
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Attorney for the Respondents
SC Bar No. 104228

Walter Hoover
6194 Dogwalla Road
Whitmire, SC 29178
Tel: (803) 394-3047
Pro se Appellant

August 3, 2026

YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Respondents, Tractor Supply Company and Starr Specialty Insurance Company, by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby file the Reply to Appellant's Return in Opposition to Respondents' Motion to Dismiss, pursuant to Rule 240(f), SCACR. The grounds for the Reply are as follows:

1. On July 22, 2026, Respondents properly served and filed Respondents' Motion to Dismiss based on Appellant's continued violation of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules.
2. On July 29, 2026, Appellant filed and attempted to serve Respondents with Appellant's Return in Opposition to Respondents' Motion to Dismiss. In the Return, Appellant argued that (1) he acted continuously and in good faith, (2) Respondents actually received the substantive materials, (3) any remaining issue is technical and caused no substantive prejudice, and (4) correction, fee relief, and practical compliance are appropriate instead of dismissal.
3. Pursuant to SCACR 262(b), "any document filed with the appellate court shall be accompanied by proof of service showing the document has been served on all parties." Here, Appellant's assertion that he acted in good faith, and Respondents timely received the Supplemental Record on Appeal is irrelevant. While Appellant submitted evidence that the Supplemental Record on Appeal was placed in the mail via UPS, Proof of Service was not filed until July 7, 2026. This is in clear violation of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules as (1) it was not filed and served with Appellant's initial attempted filing of the Supplemental Record on Appeal and (2) was passed the July 6, 2026, deadline for filing and service.
4. Pursuant to SCACR 260(a), "whenever it appears that an appellant or a petitioner has failed to comply with the requirement of these Rules, the clerk shall issue an order of

dismissal, which shall have the same force and effect as an order of the appellate court.”

Appellant was notified by letter from the Court (Ex. A) that he was required to file an original record on appeal and final brief(s) as well as one (1) bound paper copy of each.

In his recent Return, Appellant stated that this was a “mere technical requirement” and he is unable to file bound copies as required by the Court. Regardless of his characterization of his noncompliance, Appellant has failed to comply with the clearly written South Carolina Appellate Court Rules.

5. Furthermore, Appellant attempted to serve Respondents with his Return in Opposition to Respondents’ Motion to Dismiss via electronic service. On July 9, 2025, Respondents informed Appellant that they do not consent to service via email, requesting all filings be served via US mail (Ex. B). As of filing of this Reply, Respondents have yet to be properly served with Appellant’s Return in Opposition to Respondents’ Motion to Dismiss.

WHEREFORE, Respondents respectfully request that Respondents’ Motion to Dismiss be granted as Appellant has continuously failed to comply with the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



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August 3, 2026
Charleston, SC



The South Carolina Court of Appeals

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July 8, 2026

Walter R. Hoover, Jr.
6194 Dogwalla Road
Whitmire SC 29178

Ms. Claudia Julia Piechota, Esquire
945 Houston Northcutt
Charleston SC 29464

Re: Walter R. Hoover, Jr. v. Tractor Supply Company
Appellate Case No. 2025-001248

Dear Mr. Hoover and Counsel:

The Court has determined a need exists for one (1) bound copy of the record on appeal and all final briefs. The additional copies must comply with the binding and cover color requirements specified by Rule 267 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR).

Accordingly, the appellant(s) must file an original record on appeal and final brief(s), in either electronic or unbound paper form, as well as one (1) bound paper copy of each. All other parties must file an original final brief and one (1) bound paper copy. **The bound copies are due to be served and filed at the same time as the original record on appeal and final briefs.**

The correct caption for this appeal should read as follows on the record on appeal and all final briefs:

Walter R. Hoover, Jr., Claimant, Appellant,

v.

Tractor Supply Company, Employer, and Starr Specialty Insurance Company, Carrier, Respondents.

We request large parcels such as bound paper copies of the record on appeal and all final briefs be sent directly to the Court via the street address: **1220 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29201.**

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jasmine D. Smith, Deputy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

CLERK

From:

Sent: Thursday, June 25, 2026 9:04 AM

To: Walter Hoover,Jr

Cc: Rachel Butler; Jennifer Vanscyoc

Subject: Re: RE: Walter R. Hoover, Jr. v. Tractor Supply Company- 2025-001248

No we do not consent – please send everything via mail.

Thank you,

Claudia J. Piechota

Holder Padgett Littlejohn + Prickett, LLC

cpiechota@hplplaw.com | d. [843.310.0485](tel:843.310.0485)

For South Carolina Cases

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o. 984.664.9912 | f.
984.329.3503

From: Walter Hoover,Jr <whooverjr@gmail.com >

Sent: Monday, July 7, 2025 4:12 PM

To: Claudia Piechota <cpiechota@hplplaw.com >

Subject: Re: Walter R. Hoover, Jr. v. Tractor Supply Company- 2025-001248

Good afternoon,

Do you consent to accepting service documents via email for this matter?

Please confirm and if so, provide the email address you would like for me to use.

Ricky

On Mon, Jul 7, 2025, 2:48 PM Evans-Pryor, Khee'Asia <kpryor@sccourts.org> wrote:

Dear Mr. Hoover Jr. and Counsel,

Attached please find correspondence from the Court of Appeals.

Please do not respond to this email . Send all correspondence to ctappfilings@sccourts.org . **Any parties not included in this email will receive the attached correspondence via US Mail .**

Respectfully,

Khee'Asia Evans-Pryor

Appeals Specialist

South Carolina Court of Appeals

[1220 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29201](#)

E-filing: ctappfilings@sccourts.org

Phone: **803-734-1890**

Website: www.sccourts.org

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Defendants, of which Starr Specialty Insurance Company is the Respondent.

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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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I hereby certify that I have served Respondents' Reply to Appellant's Return in Opposition to Respondents' Motion to Dismiss upon the parties below by placing a copy of it in the U.S. Mail, sufficient post pre-paid, on August 3, 2026, addressed as follows:

Walter Hoover, *pro se* Appellant  
6194 Dogwalla Road  
Whitmire, SC 29178  
whooverjr@gmail.com



---

Jennifer R Vanscyoc, Paralegal  
Holder Padgett Littlejohn + Prickett, LLC  
945 Houston Northcutt Blvd  
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464  
jvanscyoc@hplplaw.com

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Claudia J. Piechota

*Reply to: Charleston*  
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August 3, 2026

VIA EMAIL ONLY - ctappfilings@sccourts.org

Clerk, South Carolina Court of Appeals  
Post Office Box 11629  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

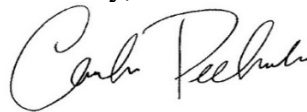
Re: Walter Hoover, Jr., Appellant, v. Tractor Supply Company, Employer, and Starr  
Specialty Insurance Company, Carrier, Defendants, Of which Tractor Supply Company is  
the Respondent.  
**Appellate Case No. 2025-001248**

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed for filing in the above referenced case are the following documents:

- (1) Respondent's Reply to Appellant's Return in Opposition to Respondent's Motion to Dismiss; and
- (2) Exhibits A & B; and
- (3) Proof of Service

Sincerely,



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Claudia J. Piechota  
**HOLDER PADGETT LITTLEJOHN + PRICKETT**  
945 Houston Northcutt Blvd.  
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(843) 310-0485  
Attorney for Respondent

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