

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF EDGEFIELD)
)
THE STATE)
Respondent,)
)
v.)
)
TRACY ALICE REL)
Appellant,)

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

APPEAL FROM EDGEFIELD COUNTY
Court of General Sessions

The Honorable Debra McCaslin, Circuit Court Judge
Case No: 2025A19110200116

MOTION TO REINSTATE APPEAL

EDGEFIELD COUNTY GSVC COURT
CLERK OF COURT CHARLES REEL
2026 AUG 25 AM08:23

COMES NOW the Appellant, by and through undersigned counsel, and respectfully moves this Honorable Court to reinstate the appeal in the above-captioned matter.

In support of this motion, Appellant states as follows:

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SC Court of Appeals

1. This matter involves a Trial in Absentia (*TIA*).
2. A sealed sentence was imposed in February 2026.
3. The sentencing order was not unsealed and published until July 28, 2026.
4. The Notice of Appeal was filed promptly thereafter, within the applicable time limits.
5. The dismissal of the appeal appears to have resulted from administrative inadvertence to clarify the above, instead any failure to comply with the Court's rules.

WHEREFORE, Appellant respectfully requests that this Court:

- a. Reinstate the appeal; and
- b. Grant such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,


Jason S. Chehoski
202 E. Main Street
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 785-8873
SC Bar Number: 69350
ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

THE ABOVE IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL
WHICH IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF COURT OF EDGEFIELD COUNTY, SC

Charles L. Reel

CHARLES L. REEL, CLERK OF COURT
OF GENERAL SESSIONS AND
COMMON PLEAS, E.C.S.C.

8/25/2026
DATED

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

In the Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM EDGEFIELD COUNTY
Court of General Sessions

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Case No. 2025A19110200116

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Respondent,

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EDGEFIELD COUNTY GS/CP COURT
CLERK OF COURT CHARLES REEL
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PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served the Motion to Reinstate Appeal on Doug Fender, Wanda H. Carter, and Tracy Rel in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, on August 24, 2026, addressed to:

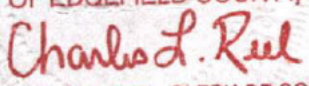
Doug Fender, Assistant Solicitor
Eleventh Circuit Solicitor's Office
205 E. Main St.
Lexington, SC 29072

Wanda H. Carter, Chief Appellate Defender
P.O. Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211

Tracy Alice Rel
Graham R&E, South Carolina Department of Corrections


Jason S. Chehoski
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ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

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CLERK OF COURT OF EDGEFIELD COUNTY, SC


CHARLES L. REEL, CLERK OF COURT
OF GENERAL SESSIONS AND
COMMON PLEAS, E.C.S.C.

8/25/2026
DATED

ELEVENTH CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER

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JASON S. CHEHOSKI
CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

August 24, 2025

The Honorable Jenny Kitchings
Clerk of Court for Court of Appeals
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia, SC 29211

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SC Court of Appeals

Re: The State vs. Tracy Alice Rel (Motion to Reinstate Appeal)

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

I have enclosed an original and one copy of the Motion to Reinstate Appeal. Please file the original and return the clocked-in copy to me in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

I am, by copy of this letter, serving this Motion to Reinstate Appeal on Assistant Solicitor Doug Fender and Chief Appellate Wanda H. Carter. The Appellant's Motion to Reinstate Appeal was hand-delivered to the Clerk of Court of Edgefield County. Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

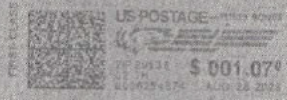
Jason S. Chehoski

Enclosures noted

cc: Doug Fender, Assistant Solicitor
205 E. Main St.
Lexington, SC 29072

Wanda H. Carter, Chief Appellate Defender
P.O. Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211

Tracy Alice Rel
Graham R&E, South Carolina Department of Corrections



Eleventh Circuit Public Defender
Tri-County
100 E. Church Street
Seluda, SC 29138

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SC Court of Appeals

The Honorable Jenny Kitchings
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