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SC Court of Appeals



SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON INDIGENT DEFENSE

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Wanda H. Carter, Chief Appellate Defender

September 2, 2026

The Honorable Jenny Kitchings
Clerk, South Carolina Court of Appeals
Post Office Box 11629
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re: The State v. Chad Walton
Appellate Case No. 2026-001578

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Please accept this letter in lieu of a return to the Motion to Withdraw as Appellate Counsel filed in the above titled case.

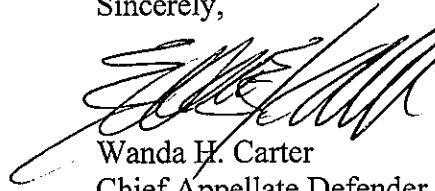
Chad Walton pled guilty to third degree domestic violence at the July 2026 term of the Charleston County General Sessions Court before Judge Dale E. Van Slambrook. Mr. Walton was sentenced to imprisonment for a period of ninety days, suspended upon supervised probation for twelve months. Mr. Walton filed a pro se notice of appeal; and thereafter, the above appellate case number was assigned to the appeal.

On July 24, 2026, Mr. Walton's former retained counsel filed a Motion to Withdraw as Appellate Counsel per Rule 264(b), SCACR. At this juncture, the Office of Appellate Defense would neither object to nor oppose counsel's motion filed in the case. Additionally, Mr. Walton filed an objection to counsel's motion. The Office of Appellate Defense takes no position regarding Mr. Walton's objection to counsel's motion.

Additionally, the Office of Appellate Defense would issue a conditional acceptance of Mr. Walton's appeal only pending confirmation of his status as indigent. An affidavit of indigency was mailed out to Mr. Walton on August 31, 2026, along with a required return deadline of September 14, 2026. As a result, this letter is also a request for the appeal to be held in abeyance pending a review of Mr. Walton's eligibility status by the Office of Appellate Defense and notice of a decision as to whether he will qualify for representation by our Office.

I am available should any questions arise in reference to this matter.

Sincerely,



Wanda H. Carter
Chief Appellate Defender

WHC/sl

cc: Mark R. Farthing, Esquire
Joseph Matthew Kaiser, Esquire