

NOTICE OF APPEAL IN A CIVIL CASE
THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

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Sep 15 2026
SC Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM RICHLAND COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas

Hon. Thomas W. McGee III, Circuit Court Judge

Hon. Daniel Coble, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 2025-CP-40-08433

Wendell Cooper,

Appellant,

v.

South Carolina Human Affairs Commission,

Respondent.

NOTICE OF APPEAL

**MOTION TO WAIVE APPELLATE FILING FEE AND FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED IN
FORMA PAUPERIS**

Appellant Wendell Cooper, appearing pro se, respectfully moves pursuant to Rule 240, SCACR, for an order permitting him to pursue this appeal without prepayment of the appellate filing fee.

In support of this motion, Appellant states:

1. Appellant seeks review of the dismissal of his action against the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission, and the order signed September 4, 2026, denying reconsideration. The letter providing written notice of entry of that order is dated September 8, 2026. Appellant received the letter and order on September 12, 2026.

2. Appellant previously submitted a financial affidavit in connection with his pending foreclosure appeal arising from Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC v. Wendell Don Cooper, Greenville County Case No. 2025-CP-23-08229. A copy of that previously executed affidavit is submitted as Exhibit A.
3. Appellant's financial circumstances have not changed since he executed that affidavit. The financial information contained in the affidavit remains accurate, and Appellant incorporates it in support of this motion.
4. Appellant requests that the Court consider the existing affidavit as evidence of his present financial circumstances in this separate appeal.
5. Appellant cannot prepay the appellate filing fee without substantial hardship in meeting necessary living expenses.

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

Rule 203(d)(1)(B)(iii), SCACR, requires the filing fee to accompany a notice of appeal. Appellant requests relief from that payment requirement based upon the financial circumstances established by Exhibit A and reaffirmed in this motion.

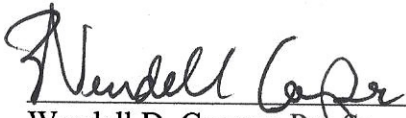
Rule 240(c), SCACR, provides for written motions supported by a memorandum and, where necessary, affidavits or other supporting documents. Appellant submits this motion and his existing financial affidavit for the Court's consideration.

To the extent a separate filing fee would otherwise apply to this motion, Appellant also requests relief under Rule 240(d), SCACR, which states: "In extraordinary cases, the appellate court may relieve a party from paying the filing fee."

WHEREFORE, Appellant respectfully requests that the Court:

1. Waive prepayment of the appellate filing fee and permit Appellant to proceed in forma pauperis in this appeal;
2. Waive any filing fee otherwise applicable to this motion; and
3. Accept the accompanying notice of appeal without prepayment while this request is decided.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wendell Cooper", written over a horizontal line.

Wendell D. Cooper, Pro Se
117 Palm Springs Way
Simpsonville, South Carolina 29681
Telephone: (864) 230-7049
September 15, 2026
Simpsonville, South Carolina

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EXHIBIT A

Copy of Appellant's previously executed financial affidavit submitted in connection with the pending foreclosure appeal arising from Greenville County Case No. 2025-CP-23-08229.

State of South Carolina County of Greenville		In the Court of Common Pleas Thirteenth Judicial Circuit	
Plaintiff(s): Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC		File No. File No.: 2025-CP-23-08229	
vs. Defendant(s): Wendell Don Cooper; Shellbrook HOA of SC, Inc.; Regions Bank		 	

**Motion and Affidavit to Proceed in Forma Pauperis
(Motion for Waiver of Costs and Fees)**

I, **Wendell Don Cooper**, am unable to pay the costs of filing and service in the present matter and respectfully request that the Court permit me to proceed **in forma pauperis**.

I am unable to prepay the costs associated with this appeal without substantial financial hardship. My income is derived primarily from Social Security retirement benefits, South Carolina retirement benefits, and limited self-employment income. My monthly living expenses, including my mortgage, utilities, food, transportation, and other necessary household expenses, consume nearly all of my available income.

Although I have made every effort to meet my financial obligations, I have fallen behind on certain obligations because my available income has been insufficient to pay all of my necessary living expenses. The fact that some obligations are not currently being paid in full reflects my inability to pay them, not an absence of those obligations.

The financial information provided in this affidavit accurately reflects my present financial condition and demonstrates that payment of the appellate filing fee would create a substantial hardship.

I respectfully request that the Court grant my Motion to Proceed **In Forma Pauperis** and waive the appellate filing fees and costs so that I may pursue my appeal.



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Plaintiff submits the following financial declaration and affidavit in support of the above motion.

Defendant
Address: 117 Palm Springs Way, Simpsonville SC 29681

Age: 70

Occupation: Retired educator / self-employed driving-school owner

Employer: _____
Retired educator / self-employed driving-school owner

Employer
Address: N/A

Gross Monthly Income

1) Earnings (attach recent pay stubs)	N/A
2) Overtime	N/A
3) Social Security, VA Benefits, Workers' Comp or Disability (SSI)	1,991.00
4) Unemployment	N/A
5) Alimony / Child Support (receiving)	N/A
6) Other	N/A
[If Amount is Entered for "Other", Specify]	758.75
Teacher Retirement	



Assets

1) Cash	75.00
2) Money in Bank Accounts (Checking & Savings)	5.00
3) IRA / 401K / Pensions	N/A
4) Other	N/A
[If Amount Entered for "Other", Specify]	N/A
Total Amount (Add lines 1-4):	75.00

Monthly Expenses

1) Rent / Mortgage	1,750
2) Utilities	250
3) Cell Phone / Phone	60
4) Food	350
5) Alimony / Child Support (Paying)	N/A
6) Child Care	N/A
7) Car Payment	N/A
8) Car Operating Expenses (Insurance, gas, maintenance)	150
9) Clothing	N/A
10) Cable / Satellite TV / Internet	40.00
11) Medical / Dental / Vision Expenses	See Attached Forms
12) Medical / Dental / Vision Insurance	See Attached Forms



**SOUTH CAROLINA
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

13) Credit Card / Loan Payments	N/A
14) Other	N/A
[If Amount Entered for "Other", Specify]	N/A
Total Amount (Add lines 1-14):	2,600

Household Information

1) Number of Adult Dependents Residing in the Home	1
2) Number of Minor Dependents Residing in the Home	0
Total Number (Add lines 1-2):	1



SOUTH CAROLINA
JUDICIAL BRANCH

Wendell R.
Signature of Plaintiff

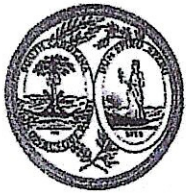
Sworn to and subscribed before me this [Fill in Sworn Day] 20th day of [Fill in Sworn Month] JULY, [Fill in Sworn Year] 2026.

[Signature]
Signature of Notary Public

GRIFFON D. WICKARD
Printed Name of Notary Public

My Commission expires the [Fill in Expiration Day] 26 day of [Enter Expiration Month] MARCH, [Fill in Expiration Year] 2033.





PEBA

SC Retirement Systems
and State Health Plan

South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority

202 Arbor Lake Drive | Columbia, SC 29223

803.737.6800 | 888.260.9430

www.peba.sc.gov

July 16, 2026

WENDELL D COOPER
117 PALM SPRINGS WAY
SIMPSONVILLE SC 29681

RE: WENDELL D COOPER
XXX-XX-8280
South Carolina Retirement System

Dear Payee:

The amounts listed below reflect your current monthly annuity from the South Carolina Retirement Systems. This is a disability annuity.

Current Monthly Annuity

GROSS	\$899.29
STATE WITHHOLDING	2.68
HEALTH INSURANCE	97.68
DENTAL PLUS	33.88
VISION CARE	6.30
NET	\$758.75

Please call our Customer Contact Center at (803) 737-6800 or 888-260-9430 if you have any questions regarding your benefit.

Sincerely,

South Carolina Retirement Systems

Social Security Administration
Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance
Important Information

BNC#: 25B1965D91499

WENDELL D COOPER
117 PALM SPRINGS WAY
SIMPSONVILLE SC 29681-8001

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Notice of Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)

Hello WENDELL COOPER

Your Social Security benefit will increase by **2.8%** in January 2026. Next year, receive your benefit information up to three weeks earlier by creating an online **my Social Security** account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. You can use this letter as proof of your benefit amount to apply for food, rent, or energy assistance. You can also use it to apply for bank loans and for other business. Keep this letter with your important financial records or access this information anytime online by signing in to your personal **my Social Security** account.

How Much You Will Get In 2026 (Before Deductions)	Monthly Amount
Your monthly benefit in 2026 <u>before</u> deductions	\$2,193.90
2026 Common Deductions:	Monthly Amount
Medicare Medical Insurance (Part B and Part C) If you did not have Medicare as of November 20, 2025, or if someone else pays your premium, we show \$0.00	-\$202.90
Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Part D) We will notify you if the amount changes in 2026. If you did not elect withholding as of November 1, 2025, we show \$0.00	-\$0.00
U.S. federal tax withholding for non-citizens	-\$0.00
Voluntary federal tax withholding If you did not elect voluntary tax withholding as of November 20, 2025, we show \$0.00	-\$0.00
How Much You Will Get In 2026 (After Deductions)	Monthly Amount
Your monthly benefit in 2026 <u>after</u> deductions This monthly amount may include deductions not listed above.	\$1,991.00

See Next Page

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AND MAILING

I certify that on September 15, 2026, I served true and correct copies of the following documents:

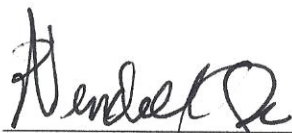
1. Notice of Appeal;
2. Motion to Waive Appellate Filing Fee and for Leave to Proceed In Forma Pauperis; and
3. Exhibit A, a copy of my previously executed financial affidavit.

I served these documents by depositing them in the United States Mail, first-class postage prepaid, addressed to counsel for Respondent as follows:

Angela Cothorn, Esq.
Staff Counsel
South Carolina Human Affairs Commission
1026 Sumter Street, Suite 101
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

I further certify that on September 15, 2026, I mailed a copy of the Notice of Appeal and this Certificate to the Richland County Clerk of Court for filing in Case No. 2025-CP-40-08433, by depositing them in the United States Mail, first-class postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

Richland County Clerk of Court
Attention: Common Pleas Division
P.O. Box 2766
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-2766



Wendell D. Cooper, Pro Se
117 Palm Springs Way
Simpsonville, South Carolina 29681
Telephone: (864) 230-7049

September 15, 2026
Simpsonville, South Carolina