

Oct 13 2026**S.C. SUPREME COURT**

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE SUPREME COURT**

Enid A. Garcia, Respondent,

v.

Reggie Jones, Petitioner.

Court of Appeals No. 2026-000716

Circuit Court No. 2025-CP-36-00238

Newberry County

**PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO REVIEW ORDER DENYING
REINSTATEMENT OF APPEAL**

Petitioner Reggie Jones, proceeding pro se, respectfully petitions this Court for review of the South Carolina Court of Appeals' September 14, 2026 order denying his motion to reinstate his appeal following dismissal for failure to timely file an initial brief and designation of matter. Petitioner requests that this Court review whether reinstatement should have been allowed in light of the circumstances and the substantial issues raised by the underlying foreclosure proceeding.

I. ORDER FOR WHICH REVIEW IS SOUGHT

On July 29, 2026, the Court of Appeals dismissed the appeal for failure to file the initial appellant's brief and designation of matter. Petitioner moved to reinstate on August 3, 2026. On September 14, 2026, the Court of Appeals denied reinstatement.

II. QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Court of Appeals should have reinstated the appeal after Petitioner promptly sought reinstatement, considering the procedural circumstances and the opportunity to submit the missing brief and designation of matter.
2. Whether dismissal without appellate consideration warrants review where Petitioner contends that the foreclosure judgment was entered without constitutionally adequate notice because reasonable means of personal service were not pursued.

III. REASONS REVIEW IS WARRANTED

Petitioner contends that the foreclosure proceeding relied on service by publication despite evidence that he continued to reside at the property. He has lived there for approximately eleven years and remains in possession. He presented evidence including utility bills, identification, and vehicle records connecting him to the residence. He further contends that a deputy had served him at the same address on other occasions, while the affidavit supporting publication stated that no one lived there without documenting meaningful attempts to locate him.

These allegations raise a substantial due-process issue: notice must be reasonably calculated, under the circumstances, to inform an interested person of proceedings affecting property rights.

See Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co., 339 U.S. 306 (1950); Jones v. Flowers, 547 U.S. 220 (2006). Petitioner seeks the opportunity to have the appellate court examine the actual service record and applicable South Carolina law rather than lose appellate review solely on procedural default.

Petitioner recognizes that certiorari is discretionary and that the Court may limit review to the reinstatement decision. He does not contend that the service dispute itself automatically excuses appellate filing requirements. He requests consideration of the short interval between dismissal and his motion to reinstate, his pro se status, the seriousness of the property interests, and any other grounds established by the appellate record.

IV. RELIEF REQUESTED

Petitioner respectfully requests that this Court (1) grant the petition for writ of certiorari; (2) review and reverse or vacate the September 14, 2026 order denying reinstatement; (3) remand with instructions permitting the appeal to proceed upon an appropriate schedule for filing the initial brief and designation of matter; and (4) grant such other relief as the Court deems just.

Respectfully submitted,

Reggie Jones, Petitioner, Pro Se

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Date:

Oct. 13, 2026

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on Oct. 14, 2026, I served a true copy of this Petition for Writ of Certiorari upon counsel for Respondent by the following authorized method:

Hand Delivery

Counsel's name and address:

Lake + Lake attorneys
1325 Main Street, Newberry SC 29108

Robert Lake IV

Reggie Jones

RECEIVED

Oct 13 2026

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Reggie Jones 10/13/26