

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Filed on Oct. 29, 26

Penn America Insurance Company and Global Indemnity Group, LLC,

Respondents,

v.

Morris Beach Hutson

Petitioner/Appellant.

RECEIVED

OCT 29 2026

Appellate Case No.: 2026—001587

SC Court of Appeals

Lower Court Case No.: 2020-CP-40-03810

RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION TO NOTICE TO BECOME A PARTY TO THE APPEAL

Petitioner/Appellant Morris Beach Hutson, appearing pro se, respectfully responds to Murphy & Grantland's "Notice to Become a Party to the Appeal" as follows.

Procedural Background

- 1. This interlocutory appeal concerns the July 14, 2026 order of the Richland County Court of Common Pleas denying Appellant's request to dissolve or terminate the permanent injunction entered in Case No. 2020-CP-40-03810.**

2. **Appellant filed this appeal approximately three months ago. The Court has not yet ordered briefing. Appellant has ordered the transcript but has not yet received it.**
3. **The filing titled “NEWTON’S NOTICE PARTY TO APPEAL 300.pdf” identifies Murphy & Grantland and Timothy J. Newton. Appellant understands the filing to request that Murphy & Grantland be permitted to become a party to this appeal.**

Argument

Any Request to Add a Party Should Be Presented Through the Appropriate Procedure

4. **Appellant does not consent to an expansion of the parties or issues beyond what is procedurally proper. Appellant respectfully maintains that any request by Murphy & Grantland to obtain party status should be presented through the appropriate procedural mechanism, supported by stated grounds and applicable authority. Appellant does not consent to an expansion of the parties or issues beyond what is procedurally proper. Under Rules 202 and 240, SCACR, Appellant respectfully requests that the Court determine whether the filing provides a proper basis for Murphy & Grantland to participate as a party in this appeal.**

5. To the extent the filing seeks relief from the Court, Appellant requests that it be treated and decided under the applicable appellate procedure, with an opportunity for Appellant to respond.

Rule citations are conventionally written in the form Rule 240, SCACR. the Court treats the notice as a motion, Appellant requests an opportunity to submit a complete response after receiving the transcript and after the Court establishes the briefing schedule.

The Notice Should Not Enlarge the Issues Presented in This Interlocutory Appeal.

6. The appeal challenges an interlocutory order refusing to dissolve or terminate an existing permanent injunction. Appellant respectfully asserts that the notice should not enlarge the scope of that appeal or introduce additional issues before the record and briefing are complete.
7. Appellant reserves all objections concerning the requested participation of Murphy & Grantland, including objections concerning party status, standing, the scope of participation, and the issues properly before the Court.

Appellant Preserves His Notice and Extrinsic-Fraud Arguments Without Requesting a Merits Determination at This Stage

8. **Appellant's position is that the permanent injunction was obtained without proper notice of the hearing because notice was sent to a post office box that had been closed for approximately five years, although prior pleadings by Defendants had been sent for years to Appellant's residence at 1545 Biltmore Street, Orangeburg, South Carolina 29115.**
9. **The permanent-injunction order states that Appellant failed to appear at the October 16, 2024 hearing, while the proposed and executed permanent order subsequently was served at 1545 Biltmore Street, Orangeburg, South Carolina 29115. Appellant disputes any contention that he knowingly failed to appear or defaulted. Intentional misrepresentations.**
10. **Appellant further contends that issues affecting his ability to close involved an unrecorded lease and that his title search disclosed no defects. Appellant maintains that extrinsic fraud affected the lower-court proceedings.**
11. **These matters are stated solely to preserve Appellant's objections and clarify the record. Appellant does not ask the Court to determine their merits in this response and reserves the right to address them fully after receiving the transcript and once briefing is scheduled.**

Prayer for Relief

Appellant respectfully requests that the Court deny the notice to the extent it is procedurally insufficient; alternatively, treat it as a motion and establish a deadline permitting Appellant to respond after receiving the transcript; or defer ruling until briefing is scheduled. Appellant further requests that any participation be limited to that permitted by the applicable procedure and that all of Appellant's objections and merits arguments be preserved.

Respectfully submitted,



Date__October 29th,2026

Morris Beach Hutson

Petitioner/Appellant, Pro Se

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October 29, 2026

Orangeburg, South Carolina

PROOF OF SERVICE

I HEREBY DECLARE I HAVE SERVED BOTH MURPHY GRANTLAND AND COLLINS
LACY LAW FIRMS WITH THIS RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION TO THE NOTICE TO
BECOME A PARTY TO THE APPEAL.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cynthia Exum', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

CYNTHIA EXUM.

DATE OCTOBER 29TH, 2026

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