The Supreme Court of South Carolina

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November 13, 2026

Montez T. Drayton, 290005
MacDougall Correctional Institution
1516 Old Gilliard Road
Ridgeville, SC 29472

Re: Montez T. Drayton v. State
Appellate Case No. 2026-001085

Dear Petitioner:

Your counsel has submitted a petition for writ of certiorari indicating that this appeal is without merit and moves to be relieved as your counsel. *Johnson v. State*, 294 S.C. 310, 364 S.E.2d 201(1988). The records of this Court reflect that counsel served you with a copy of the Petition and Appendix.

This letter is to advise that you may file a *pro se* response to the petition filed by your counsel, raising and addressing any issues you believe the Court should consider in this appeal. If you decide to file a *pro se* response, it must be filed within forty-five days of the date of this letter. The response must be either typewritten or legibly handwritten, and it must have at least an inch margin on all sides. Further, you will need to only submit one copy of your response, and this copy should not be stapled or bound in any manner.

Sincerely,



CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

cc: Wanda H. Carter
Zachary William Jones