

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

Steve Lester, Petitioner,

v.

State of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2014-000104

ORDER



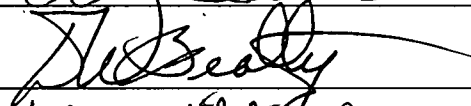
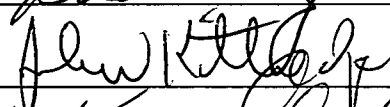
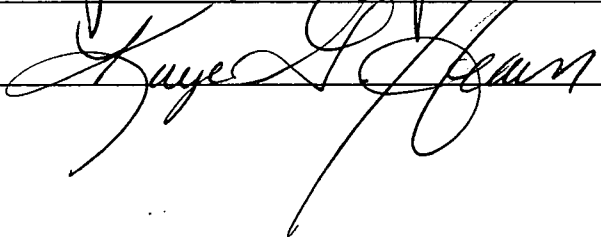
In 1975, petitioner pled guilty to one count of murder and two counts of armed robbery. He was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, fifteen years' imprisonment, concurrent, for one count of armed robbery, and a *consecutive* fifteen years' imprisonment for the second count of armed robbery. Since that time, he has filed at least ten applications for post-conviction relief (PCR) challenging the convictions. By order dated April 17, 2013, we prohibited petitioner from filing any further PCR applications, habeas corpus petitions or other actions collaterally challenging the convictions and sentences in the circuit court without first obtaining permission to do so from this Court.

However, petitioner proceeded to file another PCR application on September 26, 2013. The circuit court dismissed the application in light of this Court's order of April 17, 2013, and petitioner's failure to obtain permission to file the application.

Petitioner has now filed documents entitled "Notice to Appeal PCR. Newly Discover," "Newly Discover," and "Motion to the Court Rule 29(B), SCRCrim. Newly Discover Evidence."

Because petitioner failed to obtain the requisite permission from this Court, the PCR application petitioner filed on September 26, 2013, was not proper, should not have been accepted for filing, and should not have been ruled upon. We therefore vacate the order of the circuit court and dismiss the notice of appeal as moot. *See e.g. Miller v. State*, 388 S.C. 347, 697 S.E.2d 527 (2010)(vacating order ruling on Rule 59(e), SCRCP, motion filed by inmate and dismissing notice of appeal as

moot because the motion should not have been accepted for filing since inmate was represented by counsel). The motions based on newly discovered evidence are denied.

	C.J.
	J.
	J.
	J.
	J.

Columbia, South Carolina

February 24, 2014

cc: Karen Ratigan, Esquire
Steve Lester #075259
The Honorable Paul D. Wickensimer
The Honorable D. Garrison Hill