

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS )  
 )  
State of South Carolina )  
 )  
-vs- )  
 )  
Richard Tavares Johnson, )  
 )  
 )  
Defendant. )  
 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Indictment No.: 2013-GS-46-0804, 2013-GS-46-0805

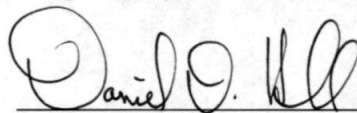
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**RULE 203(B) EXPLANATION**

Pursuant to Rule 203(B)(iv), the issue to be raised on appeal is whether the trial court abused its discretion when it imposed the ten year sentence upon the Appellant after he pled guilty to Distribution of Crack 2<sup>nd</sup> offense and Possession With Intent to Distribute Marijuana 2<sup>nd</sup> offense.

The undersigned does not have a good faith basis to believe that this issue is properly before the Court of Appeals, and the undersigned did not object to the sentence or file a motion to reconsider the sentence. Nevertheless, the undersigned consulted with the Appellant about his right to appeal, and after consultation, the undersigned has filed the instant appeal at the request of the Appellant because the Sixth Amendment requires counsel to follow the Appellant's request. *See Frazer v. South Carolina*, 430 F.3d 696, 705 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2005) ("A defendant has a right to pursue a direct appeal, even if frivolous, which counsel must assist as 'an active advocate on behalf of his client.'") (quoting *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738, 744 (1967)).

Respectfully submitted,



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York, South Carolina

May 1, 2014

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