

# LAW OFFICE OF H. CHASE HARBIN, P.A.

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July 2, 2014

Clerk of Court  
South Carolina Court of Appeals  
P.O. Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

**RECEIVED**

JUL 07 2014

**SC Court of Appeals**

Re: The State, Respondent v. Sterling Cornell Hopkins, Appellant  
Appellate Case No. 2014-001338

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have been retained to represent Sterling Cornell Hopkins for an appeal of his sentencing resulting from a guilty plea on June 10, 2014. I filed a Notice of Appeal and included an explanation as to the basis of the appeal, but have since received a letter indicating that I need to forward an explanation to my client advising him that he has twenty (20) days to inform the Court in writing of any arguable basis that there are issues preserved for appeal. My legal assistant spoke with Jacqueline yesterday and she suggested that I write a more thorough explanation, copy my client, and wait for a response from the Court.

Mr. Hopkins was on probation for a resisting arrest charge when he was arrested and charged with strong armed robbery. Mr. Hopkins was assigned a public defender. Before Mr. Hopkins could have a preliminary hearing, he was pled to the charge and sentenced to two years for the probation revocation and strong armed robbery.

His mother has provided my office with papers indicating that while in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade he performed at a 4<sup>th</sup> grade level. His mother has also provided my office with papers showing that Mr. Hopkins receives disability from Social Security. He is not able to provide the Court in writing with any arguable basis as to issues preserved for appeal.

Mr. Hopkins' mother gave the public defender a file with paperwork showing his mental status before the hearing. Mr. Hopkins was never recommended for a mental evaluation. Client is mentally retarded and therefore was unable to participate in his own defense. His plea was not voluntary.

Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Chase Harbin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

H. Chase Harbin

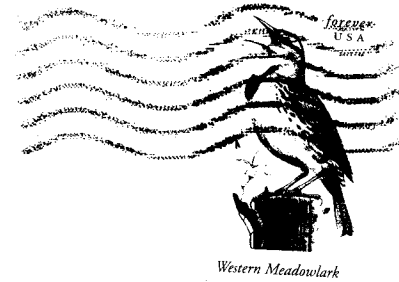
Enclosure

cc: Kate Robinette, Asst. Solicitor  
Salley W. Elliott, Esquire  
Alan McCrory Wilson, Esquire  
Robert Michael Dudek, Esquire  
Client

Law Office of H. Chase Harbin  
419 Vardry Street  
Greenville, SC 29601

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