



# The South Carolina Court of Appeals

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October 29, 2014

Ronald De' ray Skipper  
Lieber Correctional Institute #138244  
Wando-D-196  
Post Office Box 205  
Ridgeville, SC 29472

Re: Pam Millard v. Maria Cecilia Farina-Morin, M.D.  
Appellate Case No. 2012-212181

Dear Mr. Skipper:

We have received your correspondence dated October 16, 2014. You have requested all documents dated May 6, 2013 which were filed with this Court. Accordingly, please find the enclosed correspondence.

Very truly yours,

*V. Claire Allen, Deputy*

CLERK

cc: James Marshall Biddle, Esquire  
Darren Kent Sanders, Esquire  
Hugh Willcox Buyck, Esquire  
Andrew F. Lindemann, Esquire  
George Hunter McMaster, Esquire

COPY

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM FLORENCE COUNTY  
Court of Common Pleas

D. Craig Brown, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 09-CP-21-2350

Pam Millard and Ronald De'ray Skipper, Individually  
and as Co-Personal Representatives for the  
Estate of Ronald De'ray Skipper II,

Appellants,

v.

Maria Cecilia Farina-Morin, M.D.,

Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2012-21216

RECEIVED

MAY 09 2013

CLARIFICATION

SC Court of Appeals

This Clarification is being filed pursuant to that certain Order filed April 25, 2013.

This is a wrongful death case. The allegations are that malpractice was committed during the treatment of Ronald De'Ray Skipper II as a patient who was involuntarily committed to McLeod Regional Medical Center and then negligently discharged by Maria Cecilia Farina-Morin, MD and it was this malpractice that was the proximate cause the death of Ronald De'Ray Skipper II.

This matter arises by virtue of the Appeal of that Order directing a verdict in favor of the Defendant Farina-Morin.

We will not address the facts or legal basis, which give rise to this Appeal, except to note our conviction, which we hope to further illustrate, that the facts of this case are compelling and, when applied to the controlling law will lead to a conclusion that the Order of the lower court was error.

# COPY

Attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is an amended certificate of service which was executed by me and now filed with this Court showing that opposing counsel was served with the Notice of Appeal on May 23, 2012.

As to the earliest date that lead counsel or co-counsel received written notice of the entry of the order granting Respondent's motion for directed verdict: This office received written notice of entry of the order on April 3, 2012. Within ten (10) days of receipt of said Order, on or about April 13, 2012, Counsel mailed a letter to the Honorable D. Craig Brown enclosing a Motion Pursuant to Rule 59 and 60 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure. Counsel provided opposing counsel with a copy of said Motion by carbon copy of the letter to Judge Brown on April 13, 2012.

On or about May 21, 2012, my office received the original copy of the Motion along with a post-it-note attached bearing the date of May 17, 2012 requesting to fill out the attached Motion Cover Sheet and submit a check for \$25.00. A copy of the Motion is attached hereto as Exhibit "B". Counsel considered this request for additional information and, upon receipt of this original motion, Appellants decided to abandon the Motion for Reconsideration and simply appeal the Order. Appellants served their Notice of Appeal upon opposing counsel by letter dated May 23, 2012 and filed the Notice of Appeal with the Court along with a certificate of service on June 4, 2012.

As stated in the Return to Respondent's Motion to Dismiss Appeal<sup>1</sup>, after further review, the date of co-counsel's receipt of the order is unknown. This is because the staff inadvertently failed to stamp the order of the working copy "Received". Mr. McMaster further advises, however, that he can confirm that the order was mailed to his office and that his address was correctly stated by the Clerk of Court in her notice of mailing dated January 10, 2012. Hence, although the date of actual receipt will remain unknown, the order may have been received by his office at the earliest, within two (2) days of the date of mailing, January 12, 2012. However, Mr. McMaster can only confirm the date of April 3, 2012 as the date that he received written notice of the Order as on that date he asked his office to send a copy of the order to my office, as lead counsel, via facsimile. I can confirm that the copy sent to me has Mr. McMaster's writing on the first page of my parent's phone number and my cell number. I can state that making notes or writing down phone numbers on the first page of a working copy of a pleading or order was Mr. McMaster's practice and indicated that he was calling my parents to get my cell phone number<sup>2</sup>.

Respectively submitted,

  
J. Marshall Biddle

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  
May 6, 2013

<sup>1</sup> Footnote 4 of the Return to Respondent's Motion to Dismiss Appeal

<sup>2</sup> Prior to attending college and law school I worked for Mr. McMaster as his legal assistant.

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Estate of Ronald De'ray Skipper,

Appellants,

v.

McLeod Regional Medical Center of the Pee Dee  
and Maria Cecilia Farina-Morin, M.D.,

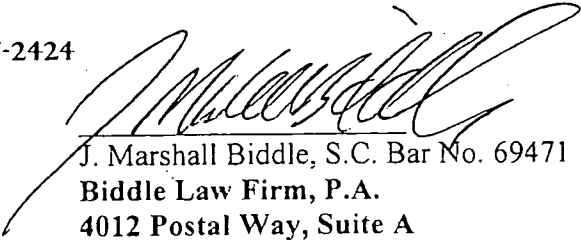
Respondents.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Clarification and the Exhibits was served on all respondents by placing a copy(ies) in the mail on May 6, 2013 with first-class postage prepaid, addressed:

DARREN K. SANDERS, ESQUIRE  
HUGH BUYCK, ESQUIRE  
BUYCK AND SANDERS LAW FIRM, LLC  
757 JOHNNIE DODDS BLVD., STE 100  
P.O. BOX 2424  
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 29465-2424

May 6, 2013

  
J. Marshall Biddle, S.C. Bar No. 69471  
Biddle Law Firm, P.A.  
4012 Postal Way, Suite A  
Post Office Box 50460  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579  
Tel.: 843-903-6209  
Attorney for Appellant

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MAY 09 2013

SC Court of Appeals

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THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM FLORENCE COUNTY  
Court of Common Pleas

D. Craig Brown, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 09-CP-21-2350

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and as Co-Personal Representatives for the  
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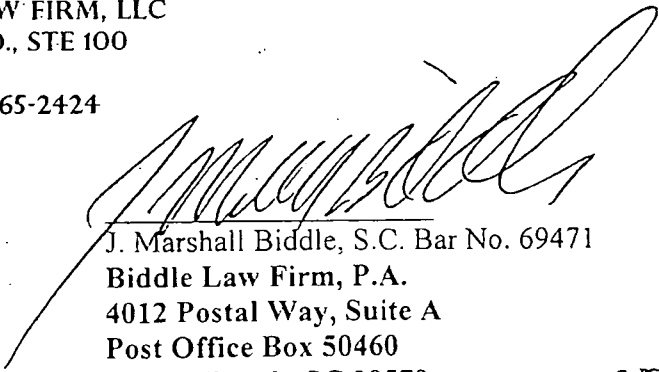
Respondents.

AMENDED  
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Appeal was served on all respondents by placing a copy(ies) in the mail on May 23, 2012 with first-class postage prepaid, addressed:

DARREN K. SANDERS, ESQUIRE  
HUGH BUYCK, ESQUIRE  
BUYCK AND SANDERS LAW FIRM, LLC  
757 JOHNNIE DODDS BLVD., STE 100  
P.O. BOX 2424  
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 29465-2424

Dated: June 4, 2012  
Revised May 6, 2013



J. Marshall Biddle, S.C. Bar No. 69471  
Biddle Law Firm, P.A.  
4012 Postal Way, Suite A  
Post Office Box 50460  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579  
Tel.: 843-903-6209  
Attorney for Appellant

**RECEIVED**  
MAY 09 2013

**SC Court of Appeals**

**BIDDLE LAW FIRM, P.A.**

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

J. Marshall Biddle  
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May 6, 2013

COPY

Honorable Jenny Abbot Kitchings  
Clerk of South Carolina Court of Appeals  
1015 Sumter Street  
PO Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

RE: Pam Millard and Ronald De'Ray Skipper, Individually and as Co-Personal  
Representatives for the Estate of Ronald De'Ray Skipper, II vs. Maria Cecilia  
Farina-Morin, M.D. Case No: 09-CP-21-2350 Appellate Case No. 2012-21216

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Enclosed please find the original and three (3) copies of Appellants' Amended Certificate  
of Service and Appellants' Clarification along with a Certificate of Service.

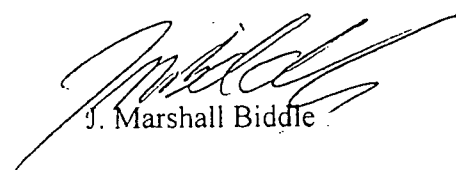
By copy of this letter, I am serving opposing counsel.

I ask that you return a stamped copy in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

Should you have any questions regarding the foregoing or need further information,  
please do not hesitate to contact our office.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,  
BIDDLE LAW FIRM, P.A.



J. Marshall Biddle

cc: Darren K. Sanders, Esquire  
Hugh Buyck, Esquire  
Andrew F. Lindemann, Esquire  
George H. McMaster, Esquire