

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

419 VARDRY STREET
GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29601
CHASEHARBIN@GMAIL.COM

TELEPHONE: (864) 288-6763

FACSIMILE: (864) 235-9988

November 21, 2014

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

RECEIVED

NOV 26 2014

SC Court of Appeals

Re: The State v. Sterling Cornell Hopkins
Appellate Case No. 2014-001338
MOTION TO BE RELIEVED

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please be advised that Mr. Hopkins has chosen to terminate my representation in this matter.

By way of background: On June 16, 2014, Mr. Hopkins hired me to file an appeal stemming from a guilty plea entered in Spartanburg County on June 10, 2014. We filed a Notice of Appeal on June 19, 2014. Thereafter, we received a letter dated June 25, 2014 from the Court asking for specific ground for appeal. On July 2, 2014 we responded by way of letter dated July 2, 2014 with specific appeal issues presented during Mr. Hopkins' guilty plea.

On August 2, 2014 we received a letter from the Court noting receipt of our July 2 letter providing an explanation for the appeal, and further requesting a statement as to whether there were any issues that are preserved for review by the Appellate Court. Thereafter we requested an extension of time to meet with client (who is in SCDC) and to review transcripts (received August 14, 2014) so that we could comply with filing requirements; specifically stating appeal issues and relevant factual basis. This extension was filed on August 20, 2014 and granted on September 15, 2014.

After consultation with the client and his family and review of materials, my office forwarded a letter, dated August 21, 2014, to client suggesting that I could not recommend a course of action likely to be successful on appeal, and recommended that he not expend any more financial resources in this matter. We were notified on August 26, 2014 that our services were no longer needed. Thereafter, client's file was not picked up from my office until November 19, 2014, along with a partial refund of his retainer fee.

It appears that my client has not yet filed with the Court specific grounds for appeal including a factual basis and rulings made in the lower court.

Due to his incarceration and necessarily-cumbersome communication, limited resources, and possible prejudice to his ability to pursue this matter with other counsel, I would respectfully request on his behalf that he be given an additional amount of time to file his specific grounds for appeal. I have informed Mr. Hopkins that he would either need to proceed *pro se* or seek out other counsel.

Based upon the foregoing, I am additionally requesting that you relieve me as counsel in this matter.

If this Court has any questions or concerns that I could assist with, please contact me at any of the above listed numbers or email.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "HCH", written in a cursive style.

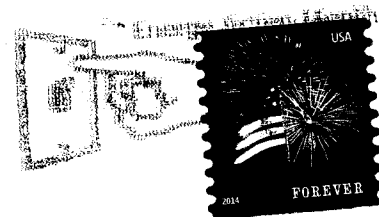
H. Chase Harbin

HCH/cpl

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

GREENVILLE SC 29601
24 NOV 2014 PM 2 L



RECEIVED

NOV 26 2014

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

SC COURT OF APPEALS

29211162929

