

FORM 7
PROOF OF SERVICE OF A NOTICE OF APPEAL

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

Case No. 2015-000151

APPEAL FROM KERSHAW COUNTY
Court of General Sessions

Alison Renee Lee, Circuit Court Judge

Case No.: 2015-GS-2800001

The State

Respondent,

v.


Ricky Van Ross, Jr.,

Appellant.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I served the Notice of Appeal by hand delivering it to The SC Court of Appeals, 1015 Sumter Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201 and to The Kershaw County Clerk of Court, 1121 Broad Street, Camden, SC 29021.

January 15, 2015



Ricky Van Ross, Jr.
10942 Two Notch Road
Elgin, South Carolina 29045
(803) 451-1976

RECEIVED

FEB 09 2015

SC Court of Appeals

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served the written explanation for my Appeal by depositing a copy of it in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, on February 6, 2015, to the following: The SC Court of Appeals, Post Office Box 11629, Columbia South Carolina 29211 and to Sally Elliott, Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General with the State of SC Office of the Attorney General, PO Box 11549, Columbia, SC 29211 and to The Honorable Daniel E. Johnson, PO Box 192, Columbia, SC 29201.

February 6, 2015


Ricky Van Ross, Jr.
10942 Two Notch Road
Elgin, South Carolina 29045
(803) 451-1976

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SC Court of Appeals

February 6, 2015

To: The South Carolina Court of Appeals

From: Ricky Van Ross, Jr.
10942 Two Notch Road
Elgin, SC 29045

I received your letter of January 27, 2015 on January 30, 2015. That letter says that I need to submit a written explanation of the issues that can be reviewed on appeal

When I told my defense attorney, Robert J. Butcher of The Camden Law Firm, that I wanted to appeal my case, he said that he would not represent me in the appeal, but that his firm would prepare what I needed to file for the appeal. On January 15, 2015 I filed everything that they gave me to file and I hand delivered it to The SC Court of Appeals and the Kershaw County Clerk of Court. Mr. Butcher did not provide a written explanation of the issues to be reviewed on appeal and he did not discuss it with me or tell me that I needed to do that.

I am representing myself at this time and do not have a copy of my hearing on January 5, 2015, however I believe that I am entitled to get that and will ask for and pay for a copy. The reason I am appealing my conviction is that my plea was not voluntary and I was not informed of all of the consequences of taking the plea that I did.

When I was arrested in 2012 I was never read my rights and after I bonded out of jail, I was never interviewed or interrogated in this matter by law enforcement. My case dragged on for two years No one with law enforcement even asked me about the things that my cousin said I did. If they contacted my attorney about my case, my attorney did not tell me. My attorney did not build any defense for me and after two years he told me that I should just take a plea. He told me that taking the plea would mean that I got 5 years probation and would have to go to sex offender counseling and that would be all. I wanted to tell my side of the story, but never got the chance. I was never informed of all of the consequences of taking the Alford plea that I did No one made the State or my cousin prove the things they were saying.

I hope that this gives you enough of an explanation of why I am appealing the Alford plea. My plea can't be voluntary if I didn't understand everything that I was being asked to do on January 5, 2015. I never did any of the things that my cousin said I did, but no one ever got my side of the story It's just been her word against mine.



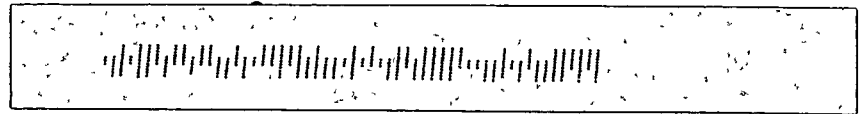
CASE NO. 2015-65-2800001

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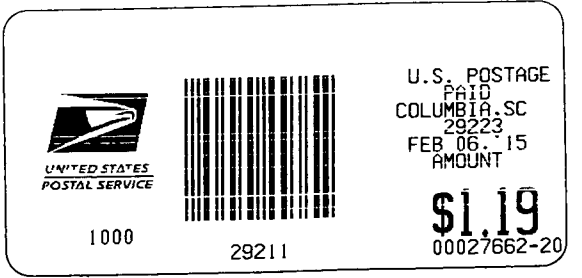
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SC Court of Appeals

Ricky Ross Jr
10942 Two
Elgin SC



29045



The SC Court of Appeals
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia SC 29211

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