



ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 27, 2015

The Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse
Clerk of Court
South Carolina Supreme Court
P.O. Box 11330
Columbia, SC 29211

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APR 27 2015

S.C. Supreme Court

Re: Jerene Hayward v. State of South Carolina
Appellate Case No. 2014-000633

Dear Mr. Shearouse:

I am in receipt of the Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above-captioned case. Please accept this letter in lieu of a formal return. The State does not object to any of the facts or arguments set forth in the petition. At the PCR evidentiary hearing, and after discussing the matter with Petitioner's first PCR attorney, the State consented to a belated Austin appeal. Therefore, the State does not dispute Judge Robert E. Hood's decision to grant a belated Austin v. State appeal from the denial of Petitioner's first PCR application by Alison Renee Lee.

If a formal brief is required, the Respondent requests an opportunity to brief the issues as requested by the Court.

If there are any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

J. Clayton Mitchell
Assistant Attorney General
SC Bar No. 101443

cc: Laura R. Baer, Esquire