

Supreme Court of South Carolina
1231 Gervais Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Christopher W. Seabrook
Inmate 291929 Allendale
P.O. Box 1151
Fairfield, SC 29523

MAY 21 2015

SC SUPREME COURT

Re: Appellate Case # 2015-000551

Indictment # 2013-65-100-5008 2013-65-100-5010

2014-65-100-4190 2014-65-100-4998

To Whom It May Concern:

In reading the article: A snapshot of the South Carolina Court System, by Karen L. Huelson, law clerk for the Honorable Justice Donald W. Beatty, I read that the Supreme Court of South Carolina has "jurisdiction over the admission to the practice of law and the discipline of persons admitted." Seeing that it is in the Supreme Court's jurisdiction to discipline persons admitted to the practice of law in South Carolina, is it not also right to assume that this right to discipline comes with the right to enforce the law upon those who practice law in South Carolina?

In *State v. Stuckey*, 333 S.C. 56; 508 S.E.2d 564 (1998) The Supreme Court ruled "Substantive documents filed pro se by a person represented by counsel are not accepted unless submitted by counsel." It goes on to say "Nothing in this order shall be construed to limit any party's right to file a pro se motion seeking to relieve his counsel..." (333 S.C. at 58; 508 S.E.2d at 565)

I have been trying to relieve my Assigned Counsel for well over a year. I have filed several complaints against him to D. Ashley Pennington (Ninth Circuit Public Defender), I complained to the Charleston County Clerk of Court, and I wrote the solicitors office. I did everything I knew how to do being that I am not an attorney, nor do I have any formal legal training. After learning that I could file a motion to relieve counsel, I did. February 12, 2015 I filed a pro se motion to relieve counsel. The Circuit Court never heard the motion. Two weeks later the attorney came to me and basically told me that I was stuck with him and that he had secured a plea for me (even though the public defender's office obtained a copy of my video bond in which the victim appeared and admitted that she lied and the incident never occurred. Also she asked the court to dismiss the charges). Either I accept the plea (0-10 years) or go to trial with counsel who was not willing to defend me and risk a sentence of up to 60 years for a crime I did not commit. I chose to plead guilty, and was sentenced to nine years.

Directly after sentencing I requested that the attorney file a motion to withdraw plea and/or a direct appeal. He refused, thus I filed a pro se motion to withdraw guilty plea March 8, 2015 and followed it with another motion to relieve counsel filed March 23, 2015. March 23, 2015

I also filed an amendment to my motion to withdraw guilty plea. As of April 9, 2015

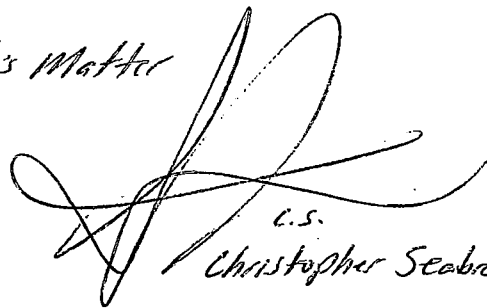
the court had not heard any of my pro se motions so I filed a pro se motion to rule. my motions still are pending in the lower court. This matter is even more complex since I also filed a pro se direct appeal and my appeal cannot go forward until all post-trial motions are heard and ruled on in the lower court.

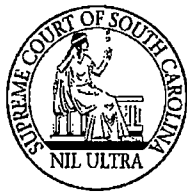
What I ask this court is to help me get my ruling in the lower court. The Supreme Court has the ability to enforce my right as a pro se criminal defendant seeking to relieve his counsel and I ask that that right be enforced by this court unto the lower court. I am not asking that the Supreme Court sway the ruling, I am sure that my motion can prove a case on its own merits, I just need it to be HEARD.

If this court is unable to assist me in getting motions heard, can this court at least help me to find a way to accomplish this?

Thank you for your time and patience in this matter

May 18, 2015


c.s.
Christopher Seabrook



The Supreme Court of South Carolina

DANIEL E. SHEAROUSE
CLERK OF COURT

BRENDA F. SHEALY
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

POST OFFICE BOX 11330
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29211
TELEPHONE: (803) 734-1080
FAX: (803) 734-1499

May 27, 2015

RECEIVED

MAY 28 2015

SC Court of Appeals

Mr. Christopher W. Seabrook #291929
Allendale Correctional Institution
Post Office Box 1141
Fairfax, South Carolina 29827

Re: *State v. Seabrook*, Appellate Case No. 2015-000551

Dear Mr. Seabrook:

Under Rule 264(a) of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR), Jason Thomas King, Esquire, remains your counsel of record before the Court of Appeals. If it is appropriate to relieve him as your counsel, that motion will have to be made to the South Carolina Court of Appeals. Further, any issue you are having with the *pro se* motions that you have filed in the circuit court will need to be resolved either in the circuit court or in the Court of Appeals where the appeal is pending.

Very truly yours,

CLERK

cc: The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings (with copy of letter)
Jason Thomas King, Esquire (with copy of letter)
Salley W. Elliott, Esquire (with copy of letter)