

No. _____

In the Supreme Court of the United States

STEPHEN COREY BRYANT, Petitioner,

v.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, Respondent.

RECEIVED

SEP 18 2015

S.C. Supreme Court

***ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
THE SUMTER COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS***


MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*

Stephen Corey Bryant asks leave to file the attached petition for a writ of certiorari without prepayment of costs and to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

[X] Petitioner has previously been granted leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* in the following court(s): Sumter County, South Carolina Circuit Court; South Carolina Supreme Court.

Petitioner's order of appointment or declaration in support of this motion is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan B. Hackett
S.C. Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
1330 Lady Street, Fourth Floor
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 734-1330

September 18, 2015.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
)	
COUNTY OF SUMTER)	
)	
Stephen Corey Bryant,)	11-CP--43-****
)	
PETITIONER)	ORDER APPOINTING COUNSEL
v.)	IN A CAPITAL CASE
)	
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,)	
)	
RESPONDENT.)	

This matter comes before me by way of appointment through the Office of Court Administration as presiding judge with exclusive and state-wide jurisdiction. It appears unto this Court that the Petitioner, Stephen Corey Bryant, is indigent and desires the appointment of two counsel, as is provided for by statute, S.C. Code Section 16-3-26(B).

After convening a hearing into this matter on April 1, 2011, this Court finds the following facts:

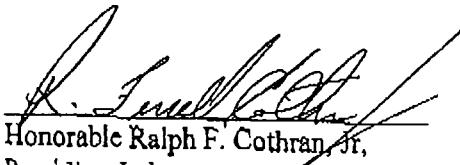
- 1) That Stephen Corey Bryant is indigent and desires representation of counsel in his state post-conviction relief proceedings;
- 2) That Mr. Bryant has met attorneys Melissa J. Armstrong and Heath P. Taylor and discussed their potential representation of him in this matter;
- 3) That Mr. Bryant has expressed his desire to have Ms. Armstrong and Mr. Taylor as his attorneys for purposes of pursuing his capital post-conviction relief;
- 4) That Ms. Armstrong and Mr. Taylor are both experienced in the field of criminal law, and Ms. Armstrong has prior experience in the handling of capital cases, and both are willing and able to provide Mr. Bryant with the effective assistance of counsel;

R. J. C.

5) That Ms. Armstrong and Mr. Taylor are duly qualified to serve under the requirements of S.C. Code Section 16-3-26(B).

Based on the foregoing, this Court hereby **ORDERS** that Melissa J. Armstrong, Esquire, is qualified and shall serve as lead chair, and that Heath P. Taylor, Esquire, is qualified and shall serve as second-chair on behalf of Stephen Corey Bryant.

I SO ORDER.


Honorable Ralph F. Cothran, Jr.,
Presiding Judge.

This 15 day of April, 2011.

No. _____

In the Supreme Court of the United States

STEPHEN COREY BRYANT, Petitioner,

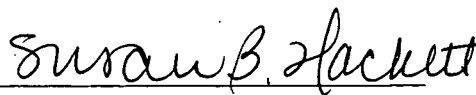
v.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, Respondent.

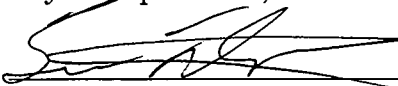
**ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
THE SUMTER COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that copies of the motion for leave to proceed in forma pauperis together with the order of appointment of Stephen Corey Bryant have been served upon opposing counsel, Melody J. Brown, by mailing copies in envelopes properly addressed with postage prepaid to the Office of the Attorney General, P.O. Box 11549, Columbia, SC 29211 on this 18th day of September, 2015.


SUSAN B. HACKETT
Counsel of Record

SWORN TO BEFORE me this 18th
day of September, 2015.



Notary Public for South Carolina
My Commission Expires: October 30, 2022.

(L.S.)

