

# The Supreme Court of South Carolina

George Cleveland III, Petitioner,

v.

State of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2015-002251

Lower Court Case No. 2014CP2301895

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## ORDER

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The motion to have the State pay for the transcript in this post-conviction relief case is denied as unnecessary.


Instead, if petitioner believes that he is indigent, he should complete and submit the enclosed Affidavit of Indigency to the Division of Appellate Defense of the Office of Indigent Defense (Appellate Defense)<sup>1</sup> within fifteen (15) days of the date of this order. If Appellate Defense determines that it will provide representation in this matter,<sup>2</sup> it will order any transcripts that may be necessary in this

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<sup>1</sup> The mailing address for Appellate Defense is P.O. Box 11589, Columbia, SC 29211.

<sup>2</sup> Petitioner proceeded without counsel before the circuit court. If petitioner desires to proceed *pro se* before this Court, he will need to file a motion asking this Court's permission to do so. *Cf. State v. Roberts*, 364 S.C. 583, 614 S.E.2d 626 (2005) (no state or federal right to proceed *pro se* in a criminal appeal). Any motion to proceed without counsel in this matter should not be made until after Appellate Defense determines if it will provide representation in this matter. If Appellate Defense determines that it will provide representation and this Court subsequently permits petitioner to proceed *pro se*, Appellate Defense will remain associated for the limited purpose of obtaining the transcripts and providing copies of documents

matter.

  
C.J.  
FOR THE COURT

Columbia, South Carolina  
November 5, 2015

Enclosure (Affidavit of Indigency)

cc: Karen Christine Ratigan, Esquire  
Mr. George Cleveland, III, #357770

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that must be served and filed in this matter.

This Court strongly encourages petitioner to be represented by counsel in this matter. Petitioner is not trained in the law, and having a lawyer who is trained in the law and familiar with the rules and procedures of this Court would be extremely beneficial. If petitioner is ultimately allowed to proceed without counsel in this matter, he will be expected to fully comply with all of the rules and procedures applicable to this matter.