

# The Supreme Court of South Carolina

Phillip H. Crocker III, Petitioner,

v.

State of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2014-001774

---

## ORDER

---

This matter is before the Court by way of a notice of appeal from an order of the circuit court denying and dismissing petitioner's application for post-conviction relief (PCR). Petitioner is currently represented by Susan Hackett of the South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense, Division of Appellate Defense. Petitioner moves to relieve Ms. Hackett as counsel and to proceed *pro se* in this matter. Neither Ms. Hackett nor the State has filed a return to the motion.

Petitioner may proceed *pro se* as long as he knowingly and intelligently waives his right to counsel. *See Faretta v. California*, 422 U.S. 806 (1975); *State v. Brewer*, 328 S.C. 117, 492 S.E.2d 97 (1997). However, it is not apparent from petitioner's motion that he is fully aware of the dangers and disadvantages of proceeding *pro se*. We therefore take this opportunity to warn petitioner that if he chooses to proceed *pro se*, this Court will require full compliance with all applicable rules and procedures. Petitioner is certain to be unlearned in other aspects of the law as well. Representation by an attorney trained in the law would be highly beneficial, and we strongly encourage petitioner to continue with representation by Ms. Hackett.

After considering this information, petitioner shall, within twenty (20) days of the date of this order, notify this Court whether he wishes to proceed *pro se* or continue to be represented by Ms. Hackett. If petitioner fails to notify this Court of his intentions within twenty (20) days, Ms. Hackett will continue to be listed as

counsel of record in this matter.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
FOR THE COURT C.J.

Columbia, South Carolina

December 10, 2015

cc:

Susan Barber Hackett, Esquire

Megan Harrigan Jameson, Esquire

Phillip H. Crocker, III, #298423