

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM LAURENS COUNTY
Court of General Sessions
Edward W. Miller, Circuit Court Judge

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JAN 04 2016

SC Court of Appeals

Court of Appeals Case No. 2015-001199
General Session Case No. 2014-GS-30-1477-82

The State, Respondent

v.

Preston Shands, Jr., Appellant.

**Petition for Extension of Time to File Initial Brief
and Designation of Matter to be Included in Record on Appeal**

The appellant, Preston Shands, Jr., petitions this Court for an order extending the time to file his initial brief and designation of matter to be included in the Record on Appeal. This petition is the fourth and final request for an extension. This request is based on the following grounds:

1) This appeal, which follows a jury trial, involves convictions for first-degree burglary, attempted murder, kidnapping, possession of a knife during the commission of a violent crime, and assault and battery. The trial court judge imposed live sentences for first-degree burglary, attempted murder, and kidnapping.

2) Having also served as trial counsel, the undersigned is aware of several issues for appeal. Because of the nature of the convictions and sentences, careful briefing and drafting is necessary to prepare the appeal for this Court.

3) In addition to the particulars of this case, this request is based on counsel's workload. Counsel had an oral argument in the South Carolina Supreme Court on December 3, 2015. *State v. Donna Lynn Phillips*. Counsel is involved in a number of capital cases including William O. Dickerson, Jr. (a capital PCR) that had an evidentiary hearing scheduled to commence on October 19, 2015 but, based on the unprecedented weather and other matters in the case, was continued to December 7, 2015. Preparation of this hearing required a substantial amount of counsel's time. Counsel has also been working on a brief, with co-counsel C. Rauch Wise, in *State v. Michael Beatty, Jr.*, which is an appeal of a murder conviction and life sentence.


4) Counsel has been working diligently on Mr. Sands' brief, which is mostly complete. Counsel plans to meet with Mr. Shands and review the brief during the week of January 4, 2016. Counsel anticipates filing the brief no later than Monday, January 11, 2016.

5) This request is made in good faith and is not intended for delay. Counsel believes good cause exists for this extension request.

Ms. Shands, therefore, respectfully requests an extension of eleven (11) days to Monday, January 11, 2016 to file his Initial Brief and Designation of Matter to be Included in the Record on Appeal.

IT IS SO MOVED.

(signature on next page)

By 

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Attorney for Appellant

December 30, 2015
Greenwood, South Carolina

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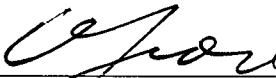
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Preston Shands, Jr., Appellant.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served the Petition for Extension of Time to File Reply Brief, by placing a copy in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, on the date reflected below, addressed as follows:

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P.O. Box 11549
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