

**Hopkins, Debbie**

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**From:** Charles Grose <chasgrose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 2:04 PM  
**To:** Hopkins, Debbie; David Tatarsky; Melody Brown; Zelenka, Don; Jon Sheldon  
**Subject:** Re: Stephen Corey Bryant, SCDC # 5252 (Capital Case)  
**Attachments:** 2016.1.14 - Order Granting Stay Until Habeas Petition Resolved.pdf

Dear Ms. Hopkins and Mr. Tatarsky,

Attached please find Judge Norton's order of this date extending the stay of execution until Mr. Bryant's habeas corpus petition is resolved.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best,  
Charles

On Fri, Sep 18, 2015 at 5:07 PM, Charles Grose <[chasgrose@gmail.com](mailto:chasgrose@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Dear Ms. Hopkins and Mr. Tatarsky,

Attached please find Judge Norton's order of this date extending the stay of execution until January 15, 2016.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and please let me know if you need additional information from me.

Best,  
Charles

**RECEIVED**

JAN 15 2016

**SC SUPREME COURT**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
BEAUFORT DIVISION

STEPHEN COREY BRYANT, )  
)  
Petitioner, )  
vs. )  
)  
BRYAN STERLING, *Commissioner, South* )  
*Carolina Department of Corrections,* and )  
JOSEPH MCFADDEN, *Warden, Lieber* )  
*Correctional Institution,* )  
)  
Respondents. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

No. 9:15-mc-00217-DCN

ORDER

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JAN 15 2016

SC SUPREME COURT

This matter is before the court on Petitioner Stephen Corey Bryant's ("Petitioner") motion for an additional stay of execution in the above referenced case.

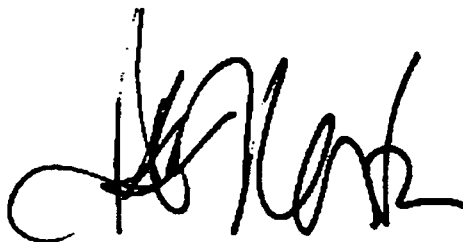
Petitioner in this capital habeas corpus matter is a state prisoner convicted of three counts of murder, armed robbery, two counts of first-degree burglary, second-degree burglary, second-degree arson, assault and battery with intent to kill, possession of a stolen handgun, and threatening the life of a public official and is sentenced to death. Petitioner pleaded guilty on August 18, 2008, and the Court of General Sessions sentenced him to death after finding the existence of an aggravating circumstance. The South Carolina Supreme Court affirmed the convictions and sentences on January 7, 2011. Petitioner filed his initial application for post-conviction relief on May 10, 2011. The application and the Petitioner's appeal were both denied. The South Carolina Supreme Court denied Petitioner's petition for writ of certiorari on March 4, 2014, denied the petition for rehearing and issued the remittitur on May 6, 2015, and noticed Petitioner's execution for June 26, 2015. See In re Stays of Execution in Capital Cases, 471 S.E.2d 140, 142 (S.C. 1996).

On June 19, 2015, the Petitioner filed a motion for stay of execution. Bryan Sterling and Joseph McFadden (“Respondents”) responded on June 22, 2015. On June 24, 2015, this court granted a stay of execution to allow Petitioner to pursue federal habeas relief. ECF No. 11. In its order, the court provided that: (1) Petitioner must file his federal habeas petition on April 28, 2016; (2) the stay shall terminate ninety (90) days after the appointment of counsel on June 24, 2105; and (3) the Petitioner must move for an additional stay at the end of that time period.

On September 17, 2015, Petitioner moved for an additional stay of execution. ECF No. 17. On September 18, 2015, this court extended the stay until January 15, 2016. ECF No. 18. Respondents filed a motion for reconsideration of the court’s extension of the stay of execution on September 21, 2015 that is still pending. ECF No. 19. On January 11, 2016, Petitioner filed the present motion to stay the execution, requesting that the court grant him an additional stay of execution. 28 U.S.C. § 2251. The court denied Petitioner’s motion by order dated January 13, 2016, ordering Petitioner to file a “placeholder” petition by January 15, 2016 before the court may extend the stay of execution. Petitioner filed his petition for writ of habeas corpus on January 14, 2016 and filed the present third motion to stay his execution shortly thereafter. Respondents do not oppose the motion.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED**, that the motion for an additional stay of execution is **GRANTED**. The stay shall be extended pending resolution of Petitioner's habeas corpus petition.

**AND IT IS SO ORDERED.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Norton', written over a horizontal line.

**DAVID C. NORTON**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**

**January 14, 2016**  
**Charleston, South Carolina**