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SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON INDIGENT DEFENSE

Division of Appellate Defense
1330 Lady Street, Suite 401
Columbia, South Carolina 29201-3332
Post Office Box 11589
Columbia, South Carolina 29211-1589
Telephone: (803) 734-1330
Facsimile: (803) 734-1397

Robert M. Dudek, Chief Appellate Defender
Wanda H. Carter, Deputy Chief Appellate Defender

RECEIVED

JUN 24 2016

June 24, 2016

SC SUPREME COURT

Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse
Clerk, South Carolina Supreme Court
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re: City of Columbia v. Marie-Therese Assa'ad-Faltas
APPELLATE CASE NO. 2015-000941

Dear Mr. Shearouse:

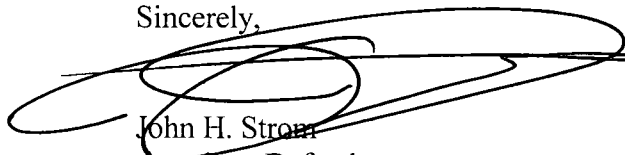
Please allow this correspondence to serve as a return to Dr. Faltas' June 13, 2016 submission to the Court titled "Appellant's Second and Final Motion and Brief to Relieve Attorney John Strom as Counsel for Cause and Marie-Therese Assa'ad-Faltas, MD, MPH's Consent for Attorney Strom to File an *Amicus* Brief Urging Reversal So Long as Such Brief Does Not Bind Appellant." I am treating this filing as *pro se* motion to relieve counsel.

I do not oppose being relieved from my representation provided Dr. Faltas fully understands the dangers, disadvantages, and other consequences of proceeding *pro se*. Likewise, I take no position on the procedural feasibility of Dr. Faltas' request to convert the brief I submitted on her behalf into a "non-binding" *Amicus* brief.

While I have no objection to being relieved, I strongly object to Dr. Faltas' allegations that I have engaged in unethical behavior while representing her. My brief advances the only issue I believe to be legally merited and that can be argued in a manner consistent with my obligations as an officer of the court.

In the event that this Court would prefer a formal response, Appellant would ask permission to submit such a reply upon request. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this case, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John H. Strom
Appellate Defender

JHS/css

cc: Bruce Greenberg, Esquire
Dr. Marie-Therese Assa'ad-Faltas