

The South Carolina Court of Appeals

John Roe, Respondent,

v.

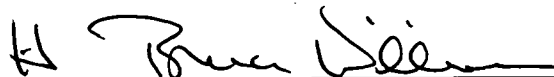
South Carolina Department of Social Services,
Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2016-000919

ORDER

Respondent has filed a motion to dismiss this appeal, contending the underlying discovery order is an interlocutory order that is not immediately appealable. Appellant has filed a return opposing the motion and asserting this appeal should proceed because "the potential improper disclosure of confidential information regarding alleged sexual abuse of minors not parties to this litigation constitutes an 'exceptional circumstance.'"

Respondent's motion is granted, and this appeal is dismissed. *See Ex parte Whetstone*, 289 S.C. 580, 580, 347 S.E.2d 881, 881 (1986) ("An order directing a party to participate in discovery is interlocutory and not directly appealable under S.C. Code Ann. § 14-3-330 (1976)."). Further, after reviewing the circuit court's orders, the parties' filings, and section 63-7-1990(B)(11) of the South Carolina Code (2010), we find exceptional circumstances do not exist to warrant this court's review of these discovery orders. *See Laffitte v. Bridgestone Corp.*, 381 S.C. 460, 471, 674 S.E.2d 154, 160 (2009) ("Ordinarily, an order compelling discovery is not directly appealable. Nevertheless, a writ of certiorari may be issued when exceptional circumstances exist." (citation omitted)). The remittitur will be sent as required by Rule 221 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules.



FOR THE COURT

FILED

August 8, 2016

Columbia, South Carolina

cc: James W. Logan, Jr., Esquire
Michael T. Smith, Esquire
Heather Hite Stone, Esquire
Robert J. Butcher, Esquire