



ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 9, 2012

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MAY - 9 2012

S.C. Supreme Court

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

RE: Steven J. Freeman v. State of South Carolina

Dear Mr. Shearouse:

I am in receipt of the Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above-captioned case which has been filed pursuant to the procedure set forth in Johnson v. State, 294 S.C. 310, 364 S.E.2d 201 (1988). Please accept this letter in lieu of a formal return. The Respondent has no objection to the Petition to be relieved as counsel.

If a formal return is required, the Respondent requests an opportunity to brief the issues as requested by the Court.

If there are any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

J. Rutledge Johnson
Assistant Attorney General

JRJ:cey

cc: Dayne C. Phillips, Esquire
Ms. Trisha Allen