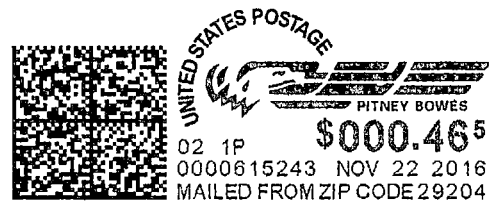




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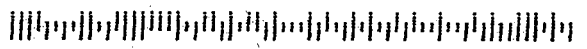
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NOV 28 2016

**SC Court of Appeals**

The Honorable Jenny A. Kitchings  
 Clerk, South Carolina Court of Appeals  
 P.O. Box 11629  
 Columbia, SC 29211

29211-162929



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November 22, 2016

**RECEIVED**

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SC Court of Appeals

The Honorable Jenny A. Kitchings  
Clerk, South Carolina Court of Appeals  
P.O. Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

Re: State of South Carolina v. Tiant Alphonso Smith  
Lower Case Nos. 2014-GS-03429, 03635, 03637  
Appellate Case No. 2016-001572

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

I apologize for not submitting an explanation for the above captioned direct appeal by yesterday's date. I have had the opportunity to visit this client at his correctional institution, and have advised him extensively concerning the pros and cons of a direct appeal from a guilty plea. He recently advised me that he has decided to withdraw his direct appeal and proceed with a Post-Conviction Relief action. I have sent him a detailed affidavit for his review and signature in which he will document his desire to withdraw his direct appeal. Unfortunately, the affidavit did not arrive back to my law firm by yesterday's date. I anticipate receiving his affidavit any day now. For this reason, I would respectfully request an additional fifteen (15) day extension in this matter. I fully expect to be able to provide the Court with the client's affidavit within that time period.

I am out of town today in Lancaster County for a hearing and understand that my staff has spoken directly with opposing counsel, J. Benjamin Aplin, Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General, and he stated that he has no problem with this request.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara D. Shurling".

Tara Dawn Shurling  
Attorney and Counselor at Law

TDS/sm

cc: J. Benjamin Aplin, Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General  
Tiant Alphonso Smith 367135  
Ronnice Gray