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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 25, 2017


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

Re: Willie Richardson v. State of South Carolina  
2003-CP-32-0927

Dear Mr. Shearouse:

The State is in receipt of a letter (attached) from Court Administration indicating that the remaining tapes for the PCR hearing in this case have been destroyed or corrupted and are no longer available. After conferring with opposing counsel and with his consent, the State respectfully requests that the deadline for filing be held in abeyance pending a status conference between both parties and Court Administration to try and determine whether the remaining testimony can be salvaged for purposes of perfecting an appeal. Please accept this letter in lieu of a formal motion.

Sincerely,

  
Johanna C. Valenzuela  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

JCV/bea

cc: South Carolina Court Administration  
C. Rauch Wise, Esquire



ALAN WILSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 25, 2017

Ms. Desiree Allen  
S.C. Court Administration  
1220 Senate Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
Via Email and Delivery

**Re: Willie Richardson v. State of South Carolina**  
**2003-CP-32-0927**


Dear Ms. Allen:

We received your attached letter today stating the transcript in this case could not be completed due to the hard drive being corrupted.

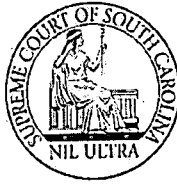
Along with opposing counsel in this case, we would like to speak with you briefly this Friday, January 27, 2017, at 9 AM, if possible, to discuss some additional areas in which the transcript's audio files may be saved. As you are aware, a transcript was able to be completed of a portion of the hearing, and we are hoping to receive the remaining transcript for the portion of the PCR hearing that was heard earlier that same day. It is possible the audio file is saved under a separate case name from that same day due to the hearing being split into two separate times that day.

In the meantime, could you please confirm you are in possession of the hard drive? With this letter we also request this **hard drive not be destroyed** during the pendency of this case.

Sincerely,

  
Johanna C. Valenzuela  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse  
C. Rauch Wise, Esquire



**South Carolina Court Administration**  
South Carolina Supreme Court  
Columbia, South Carolina

ROSALYN FRIERSON  
DIRECTOR

1220 SENATE STREET, SUITE 200  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201  
PHONE: (803) 734-1800  
FAX: (803) 734-0289

January 23, 2017

Brianna Arnone  
Legal Assistant  
P.O. Box 11549  
Columbia, SC 29211

In re: Willie J. Richardson v State of South Carolina

Dear Ms. Arnone:

This is to follow up to the letters your office has sent concerning the transcript in this matter. The most recent being January 19, 2017. As we've discussed previously, we are unable to produce any other information from this transcript because of the hard drive Ms. Thueme delivered being corrupted. As you know, Ms. Bennett prepared the portion of the transcript that has already been provided and was unable to find any other audible witness testimony on the hard drive in this matter.

Court Administration has exhausted all avenues for the production of this transcript, and unfortunately, it cannot be reproduced. I sincerely regret the inconvenience this causes you and all parties involved. If I can assist you further, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Desiree R. Allen  
Court Reporter Manager

The Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse  
C. Rauch Wise, Esq.



ALAN WILSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 9, 2016

Carol M. Thueme, Court Reporter  
S.C. Court Administration  
1220 Senate Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

**Re: Willie J. Richardson v. State of South Carolina**  
**2003-CP-32-0927**

Dear Ms. Thueme:

Please prepare a Post-Conviction Relief Hearing transcript taken January 22, 2014 of the above named individual, before the Honorable Brian M. Gibbons for the term of the Court of Common Pleas in Lexington County. Our office had previously requested this transcript, however the transcript we received any contains the State's case, which includes testimony from Herverly Young. We are now requesting the portion of the transcript that was taken earlier the same day that includes the testimony from the Applicant's case, including Willie Richardson, Ernest Richardson and Greg Huger, etc. If this transcript no longer exists, please send a letter to that effect.

Please note that Rule 243(f)(3), SCACR, now requires as detailed an index for PCR hearings as for trial transcripts filed in the Supreme Court. The index should include all exhibits. If exhibits were not introduced, then please note that no exhibits were submitted at the hearing. Please prepare the transcript in accordance with the format requirements as set forth in the Court Reporter Manual.

**If the cost of this transcript will exceed \$500, please inform me in writing before you complete the transcript.** If you will prepare this transcript and forward it to me along with your statement, I will arrange for payment. Please note that all statements are to be signed

Sincerely,

*Ashley Hawk*  
for Deonna Rogers  
Legal Assistant  
(803) 734-2567  
eleventhcircuitpcr@scag.gov

cc: Desiree R. Allen, Court Administration  
The Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse  
C. Rauch Wise, Esquire



ALAN WILSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 19, 2017

Carol M. Theume, Court Reporter  
S.C. Court Administration  
1220 Senate Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

**Re: Willie J. Richardson v. State of South Carolina**  
**2003-CP-32-0927**

Dear Ms. Theume:

On November 9, 2016, this office requested a **Post-Conviction Relief Hearing** transcript taken **January 22, 2014**, of the above named individual, before the Honorable Brian M. Gibbons for the term of Court of Common Pleas in Lexington County. Our office has previously requested this transcript, however, the transcript we received only contains the State's case, which includes testimony from Hervery Young. We are now requesting the portion of the transcript that was taken earlier the same day that includes the testimony from the Applicant's case, including Willie Richardson, Ernest Richardson, Greg Huge, etc.

Pursuant to Rule 207(a)(2), SCACR, the allotted time of 60 days has lapsed to either received the transcript or an extension. I would appreciate your confirming in writing as to the status of the transcript. If this transcript no longer exists, please send a letter to that effect.

Please note that Rule 243(f)(3), SCACR, now requires as detailed an index for PCR hearings as for trial transcripts filed in the Supreme Court. The index should include all exhibits. If exhibits were not introduced, then please note that no exhibits were submitted at the hearing. Please prepare the transcript in accordance with the format requirements as set forth in the Court Reporter Manual.

**If the cost of this transcript will exceed \$500, please inform me in writing before you complete the transcript.** If you will prepare this transcript and forward it to me along with your statement, I will arrange for payment. Please note that all statements are to be signed.

Sincerely,

Brianna Arnone  
Legal Assistant  
(803) 734-3737  
eleventhcircuitpcr@scag.gov

cc: Desiree R. Allen, Court Administration  
The Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse  
C. Rauch Wise, Esquire