

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF LANCASTER)
)
THE STATE,)
)
VS.)
)
Johnny Ray Pyatt,)
)
Defendant.)
_____)

IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA
COURT OF APPEALS

STATEMENT OF APPELLANT'S COUNSEL
REGARDING REQUEST FOR APPEAL
OF GUILTY PLEA

RECEIVED

MAR 20 2017

SC Court of Appeals

Appellant's Statement of Facts

The defendant was charged in Lancaster County General Sessions Court with ten counts of Burglary Second Degree (Violent), four counts of Petit Larceny (Property Offense Enhancement) and three counts of Breaking and Entering an Automobile from a series of incidents in Lancaster County beginning on or about October 21, 2015 through the early part of November 2015.

A co-defendant of Mr. Pyatt cooperated with law enforcement and provided information that he committed the above reference offenses and that Mr. Pyatt participated in those events as well. Further, the co-defendant pled guilty and proffered testimony regarding Mr. Pyatt's involvement as part of his plea. At one of the offense sites, law enforcement collected a drink bottle and a SLED test concluded that DNA obtained from a swab from that bottle was that of Mr. Pyatt.

Mr. Pyatt was arrested on or about November 11, 2015 and remained in the Lancaster County Detention Center. The defendant's case was place the trial docket for the March 13, 2017 term of General Sessions Court in Lancaster County. Plea negotiations were conducted prior to the call of that case.

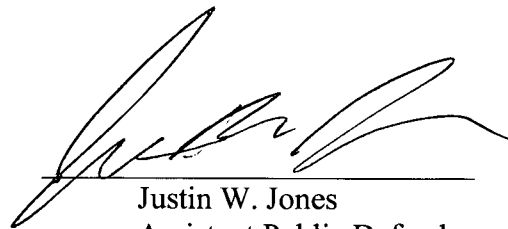
Pursuant to the plea negotiations the offered a negotiated sentence of fifteen years incarceration in the South Carolina Department of Corrections for a plea to seven counts of Burglary Second Degree (Violent), two counts of Petit Larceny (Property Offense Enhancement), and one count of Breaking and Entering an Automobile. On March 13, 2017,

Mr. Pyatt entered a guilty plea to the plea offer pursuant to North Carolina v. Alford. Judge Hood accepted Mr. Pyatt's plea and sentenced Mr. Pyatt to the negotiated sentence.

Issues on Appeal

Subsequent to his guilty plea, the defendant requested his counsel to file an appeal regarding this plea. Pursuant to Rule 203(b)(2) and(d) SCACR, defendant's counsel is filing this appeal.

However, after a review of the facts of this case and guilty plea, defendant's counsel does not find any meritorious grounds for appeal.



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