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Robert M. Dudek, Chief Appellate Defender
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July 31, 2017

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings
S.C. Court of Appeals
PO Box 11629
Columbia, SC 29211

RECEIVED

JUL 31 2017

SC Court of Appeals

Re: *The State v. John Arthur Thomas*
Appellate Case No.: 2015-000720

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Please inform the Court that Mr. Thomas has advised me he wishes to drop his appeal. I have sent Mr. Thomas an affidavit to that effect for him to sign and notarize. I would normally wait until I received the signed and notarized affidavit to inform the Court of my client's intention to drop his appeal, but, as oral argument had already been held in this case, I thought it best to inform the Court in advance.

I have discussed with my client at length the consequences of dismissing his appeal. Based on my talks with Mr. Thomas, I believe that his decision to dismiss his appeal is knowing and voluntary. Once Mr. Thomas has sent me the completed affidavit, I submit it to the Court.

By copy of this letter, I am informing William F. Schumacher, IV, of the Office of the Attorney General of Mr. Thomas' decision. Thank you for your time and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

John H. Strom
Appellate Defender

cc: William F. Schumacher, IV, Esquire