



The Supreme Court of South Carolina

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CLERK OF COURT

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CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

POST OFFICE BOX 11330
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA
29211
1231 GERVAIS STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201
TELEPHONE: (803) 734-1080
FAX: (803) 734-1499
www.sccourts.org

September 13, 2017

Lance S. Boozer, Esquire
1400 Laurel Street
Suite 4A
Columbia SC 29201

Re: Ravell McLaughlin v. State
Appellate Case No. 2017-001869
Lower Court Case No. 2015CP3400268

Dear Counsel:

This Court has received your notice of appeal, and the case has been assigned the appellate case number that appears above. Please use this number on all future correspondence relating to this matter.

All parties to this matter are advised that all filings must comply with the requirements of Rule 267 of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR). The SCACR are available online at www.sccourts.org/courtreg. Additionally, any filings submitted by counsel admitted in South Carolina must include counsel's bar number.

The attention of the parties is directed to the order relating to the inclusion of personal data identifiers and other sensitive information in documents filed with the Supreme Court of South Carolina and the South Carolina Court of Appeals. The order can be found at www.sccourts.org/courtOrders/displayOrder.cfm?orderNo=2014-04-15-02. Please note that the responsibility for insuring that information is redacted or sealed as

required by this order rests with counsel and the parties. This office will not review filings for redaction or to determine if materials should be sealed.

Except for the claim seeking a belated direct appeal under *White v. State*, the PCR judge determined all other claims are barred by the statute of limitations. You have advised this Court that you are unable to set forth any arguable basis for asserting that this determination by the PCR judge was improper, and have advised the petitioner that he has twenty (20) days to file a *pro se* explanation as to why the petitioner believes that this determination by the circuit court was improper under *Dennison v. State*, 371 S.C. 221, 639 S.E.2d 35 (2006).

As to the *White v. State* claim, the PCR judge determined that petitioner was not entitled to a belated direct appeal. However, even if petitioner were ultimately to prevail on this issue, the most he would receive would be a belated appeal from his guilty pleas and in that appeal petitioner would have to “provide a written explanation showing that there is an issue which can be reviewed on appeal. This explanation should identify the issue(s) to be raised on appeal and the factual basis for the issue(s) including how the issue(s) was raised below and the ruling of the lower court on that issue(s). If an issue was not raised to and ruled on by the lower court, the explanation shall include argument and citation to legal authority showing how this issue can be reviewed on appeal.” Rule 203(d)(1)(B), SCACR (explanation required when an appeal is taken from a guilty plea, *Alford* plea, or plea of *nolo contendere*).

Therefore, I ask that you please provide the explanation required for a guilty plea appeal.¹ This explanation should be provided within fifteen (15) days of the date of

¹ In the event you determine that you do not have a good faith explanation to provide, I would recommend that you follow a procedure similar to that in *Dennison v. State*, *supra*. This will give the petitioner an opportunity to provide a *pro se* explanation for allowing an appeal from the guilty plea.

this letter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

CLERK

cc: Johnny Ellis James, Jr., Esquire