

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

Darrin L. Graham, Petitioner,

v.

State of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2016-002427

ORDER

This matter is before the Court on a petition for a writ of certiorari following the denial of petitioner's application for post-conviction relief.

Petitioner's counsel asserts that the petition is without merit and requests permission to withdraw from further representation. Petitioner has not filed a *pro se* petition.

Petitioner alleges plea counsel was ineffective in failing to advise petitioner of his right to a direct appeal and in failing to file a notice of appeal. After careful consideration of the entire record as required by Johnson v. State, 294 S.C. 310, 364 S.E.2d 201 (1988), we find no issues of arguable merit. We further find a direct appeal would, in any event, be to no avail because the circuit court had subject matter jurisdiction to accept petitioner's guilty plea and no issue was preserved for direct appeal. We deny the petition and grant counsel's request to withdraw.



C.J.

FOR THE COURT

Columbia, South Carolina

October 6, 2017

cc:

Laura Ruth Baer, Esquire

Megan Harrigan Jameson, Esquire

Darrin L. Graham, #362765