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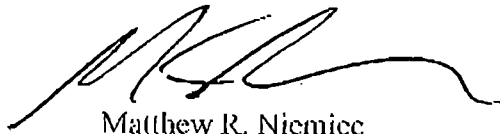
February 12, 2018

South Carolina Court of Appeals
PO Box 11629
Columbia, SC 29211And via fax: (803) 734-1639 ¹⁸³⁹Re: State v. Dawkins
Appellate Case No.: 2017-002528

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is in response to your letter dated February 2, 2018 in the above-referenced appeal. You asked me to explain why I filed a Notice of Appeal on behalf of my client. I did so because my client asked me to. My client entered a plea under Alford v. NC, and instructed me to file an appeal after the plea. Additionally, his mother contacted me by telephone after his plea to confirm his instructions to me to file a plea for him.

Sincerely,



Matthew R. Niemiec

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SC Court of Appeals