

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM AIKEN COUNTY  
Court of Common Pleas

Doyet A. Early, III, Circuit Court Judge

**RECEIVED**

MAR 26 2018

SC Court of Appeals

Case No. 2013-CP-02-01005

Richard D. Ridley .....Applicant/Appellant

v.

State of South Carolina.....Respondent/Respondent

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Appellant, Richard D. Ridley, appeals the jury verdict and the Order of Continued Commitment from his sexually violent predator release trial. On February 27, 2018, the jury returned a verdict in the above noted case number/matter. On February 28, 2018, an Order Of Continued Commitment was filed with the Aiken County Clerk of Court reflecting the trial of this case and the finding of fact pursuant to South Carolina Code Sections §44-48-10 through §4-48-110.

Appellant, Richard D. Ridley appeals the verdict in this case to include the jury's finding that the State of South Carolina has proven, beyond a reasonable doubt, that Appellant/Petitioner's mental abnormality or personality disorder remains such that he is not safe to be at large and, if released, is likely to engage in acts of sexual violence.

Appellant, Richard D. Ridley, appeals his continued commitment to the Department of Mental Health for his long-term control, care and treatment and the denial of his release from the Sexually Violent Predator program.

March 23, 2018



Annie Bea Hightower, Esq.  
Aiken & Hightower  
2231 Devine Street, Suite 201  
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ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

**OTHER COUNSEL OF RECORD:**

Office of the Attorney General of the State of South Carolina

Assistant Attorney General, Christopher Morrow, Esq.

PO Box 11549

Columbia, SC 29211

**ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT**

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PROOF OF SERVICE AND FILING

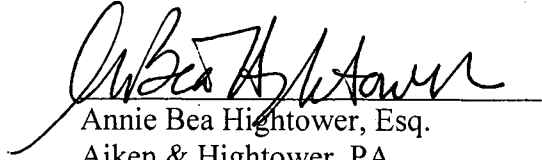
I certify that, on March 23, 2018, I served and filed the Notice of Appeal and Motion to Proceed in Forma Pauperis in the above appeal by mailing copies of those filings to the following:

Office of the Attorney General for South Carolina  
Assistant Attorney Christopher A. Morrow, Esq.  
PO Box 11549  
Columbia, SC 29211

and

Office of the Aiken County Clerk of Court  
109 Park Avenue, SE  
Aiken, SC 29801

**SIGNATURE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE**



Annie Bea Hightower, Esq.  
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**ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT**

Columbia, SC  
March 23, 2018

**AIKEN & HIGHTOWER, P.A.**

*Attorneys at Law*

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Columbia, SC 29205

Phone: 803-799-5205 - Fax: 803-799-5206

*Arthur K. Aiken, Esq.*

*A. Bea Hightower, Esq.*

March 23, 2018

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**MAR 26 2018**

**SC Court of Appeals**

The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings  
South Carolina Court of Appeals  
Post Office Box 11629  
1015 Sumter Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re: In The Matter of The Care and Treatment of Richard D. Ridley  
C/A; 2013-CP-02-01005

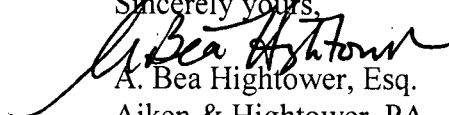
Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Please find enclosed for filing one (1) original and one (1) copy of the following documents:

- Notice of Appeal
- Proof of Service
- Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis

I have enclosed a copy of the letter to Aiken County Clerk's Office and a copy of the Order Of Continued Commitment filed in the above matter on February 28, 2018. Please file the same and return the stamped copies in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Sincerely yours,



A. Bea Hightower, Esq.

Aiken & Hightower, PA

2231 Devine Street Suite 201

Columbia, SC 29205

[Bea@aikenandhightower.com](mailto:Bea@aikenandhightower.com)

Enclosures: As Stated

cc: Office of the Attorney General of the State of South Carolina  
Assistant Attorney General, Christopher Morrow, Esq.  
PO Box 11549  
Columbia, SC 29211  
**ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT**



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SC Court of Appeals

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