

# The Supreme Court of South Carolina

Stephen C. Stanko, Petitioner,

v.

State of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2017-000211

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## ORDER

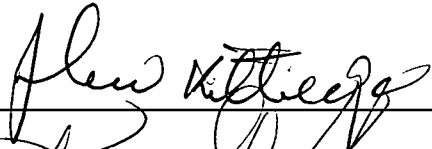
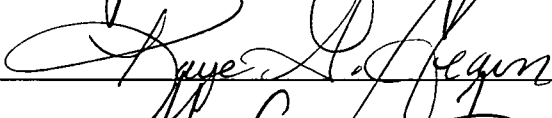
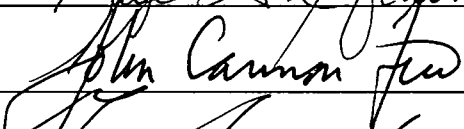
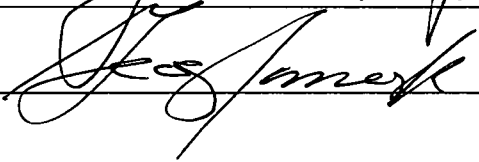
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By order dated December 14, 2017, we remanded this case to the circuit court to conduct a hearing on whether the attorneys appointed to represent petitioner before the circuit court in this matter met the requirements of S.C. Code Ann. § 17-27-160 (2014). The Honorable D. Craig Brown was assigned to the case and was directed to hold a hearing within thirty days of the date of the order and to issue an order within five days of the conclusion of the hearing stating whether the appointed attorneys were qualified. The order further instructed that if Judge Brown determined the attorneys did not meet the statutory requirements, he was to conduct an additional hearing to determine if petitioner was prejudiced by the attorneys' lack of qualifications. The Court directed that hearing be conducted within sixty days of the order finding the appointed attorneys were not qualified.

On January 16, 2018, Judge Brown issued an order finding petitioner's counsel failed to meet the requirements of section 17-27-160. The order stated a hearing would be held within sixty days to determine if petitioner was prejudiced by counsel's lack of qualifications. Judge Brown held a hearing on March 2, 2018, to determine how to proceed with the prejudice hearing. Judge Brown has informed this Court that he believes he will need a 180 day extension of time from March 2, 2018, to conduct the prejudice hearing. The request for an extension of time is granted.



C.J.

  
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J.

Columbia, South Carolina

March 29, 2018

cc:

J. Anthony Mabry, Esquire  
Lindsey Sterling Vann, Esquire  
Caroline M. Scrantom, Esquire  
Donald J. Zelenka, Esquire  
The Honorable D. Craig Brown