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ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 16, 2018

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S.C. SUPREME COURT

The Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse
Clerk, South Carolina Supreme Court
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re: Randall Earl Sightler v. State of South Carolina
Appellate Case No. 2016-002415

Dear Mr. Shearouse:

Please accept this letter in lieu of a formal return to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari seeking Austin review. The State does not contest the grant of a belated review pursuant to Austin v. State, 305 S.C. 453, 409 S.E.2d 395 (1991). Therefore, Respondent consents to the petition in this narrow regard.

I am also in receipt of the Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above-captioned case which has been filed pursuant to the procedure set forth in Johnson v. State, 294 S.C. 310, 364 S.E.2d 201 (1988). Please also accept this letter in lieu of a formal Return to the Johnson Petition. As appellate counsel has submitted that there is no cause to grant review, Respondent will not respond to the issue raised for belated review unless the Court should direct briefing on the issue raised. The Respondent has no objection to the Petition of David Alexander, Esquire to be relieved as counsel.

If a formal return is required, the Respondent requests an opportunity to brief the issues as requested by the Court.

If there are any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


W. Joseph Maye
Assistant Attorney General

WJM:dmd

cc: David Alexander, Esq.