

IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA COURT OF APPEALS

Susan Harrison,
Christopher Jones,
Desimber Rose Wattleton, Pastor, et al:

Plaintiff-Appellant

VS.

Michael Davis,

Et al:

Defendant-Respondent

§ Appeal No. 2018-000871

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§ PLAINTIFF-APPELLANT

§ CHRISTOPHER JONES

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SC Court of Appeals

CHRISTOPHER JONES' ORIGINAL PETITION
AND APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER
AND TEMPORARY INJUNCTION

NOW COMES Christopher Jones, Plaintiff-Appellant in the above-captioned cause, and submits this Original Petition and Application for Temporary Restraining Order and Temporary Injunction. This matter involves public safety issues. In support of this petition, Plaintiff shows as follows:

I.
DANGEROUS AND CHURCH SAFETY CONCERNS

Plaintiff hereby requests that this Petition be expedited for consideration of Protection by and through the issuance of a Temporary Injunction and a Temporary Restraining Order as a protective measure against the above named Defendants-Respondents continued dangerous conduct, and for the express purposes of providing public safety for all involved with the instant matter. Plaintiff reserves the right to move this court to enter a protection and control plan order under RULE 65 SCRPC.

II. **PARTIES**

Plaintiff Christopher Jones (“Plaintiff-Appellant”) is a member and Officer of the Cornerstone Cathedral Church 185 Cornerstone Drive, West Union South Carolina with its principal office located in Oconee County, South Carolina

Desimber Rose Wattleton (“Plaintiff-Appellant”) is a member and Pastor of the Cornerstone Cathedral Church 185 Cornerstone Drive, West Union South Carolina with its principal office located in Oconee County, South Carolina

Susan Harrison (“Plaintiff-Appellant”) is a member and Officer of the Cornerstone Cathedral Church 185 Cornerstone Drive, West Union South Carolina with its principal office located in Oconee County, South Carolina

This petition and Application is made by Christopher Jones individually.

Defendant Michael Davis, (“Defendant-Respondent”) is a citizen under the laws of the State of South Carolina with his principal place of residence in Greenville County, South Carolina. Defendant Michael Davis can be served through the Greenville County Sheriffs’ Office at his home of 1003 Easley Bridge Road Greenville South Carolina. Defendant Davis work is located at The Huddle, 478 E. Main Street Easley South Carolina 29640 864-859-3167 and can be served by the Pickens County Sheriff’s Office.

Maria Renee Davis is now a party to a new action and is attempting to assist Defendant Davis in his actions against the safety and orderly conduct of this Plaintiff and his children, among others members and guest to the Church are involved.

Lamar Patterson is now a party to a new action and is attempting to assist Defendant Davis and Maria Davis in their actions against the safety and orderly conduct of the Church Worship and Religious Assembly, as well as specifically to this Plaintiff and his children, among others also involved.

Ms. Lamar Patterson is now a party to a new action and is attempting to assist Defendant Davis and Maria Davis in their actions against the safety and orderly conduct of the Church Worship and Religious Assembly, as well as specifically to this Plaintiff and his children, among others also involved.

Scott Arnold is now a party to a new action and is attempting to assist Defendant Davis in his and Maria Davis in her actions against the safety and orderly conduct of this Plaintiff and his children, among others involved.

III. **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

The Court has jurisdiction over this matter because the issues are intimately involved with the instant suit and current jurisdiction of the Appeal rests with South Carolina Court of Appeals in this action and the related remedy sought by the Plaintiff-Appellant is under this Honorable Court jurisdictional authority pursuant to Rule 65 SCRPC.

This action is properly brought in Oconee County, South Carolina because all or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to this claim occurred in Oconee County South Carolina.

IV. **FACTS**

Beginning on or about April 6, 2018, Defendant Davis was granted a Motion to Dismiss with Prejudice as to the Complaint 2016-CP-37-0060 for failure to hire an attorney this action was filed by Plaintiff-Respondent and other members of the Church. This Complaint was filed seeking a Declaratory Judgement as to the act of the Church congregational body and individual vote to remove Michael Davis from office. The appeal followed on April 9, 2018. In the course of the appeal process, the South Carolina Court of Appeals issued a Temporary Stay pending the outcome. The South Carolina Court of Appeals maintained jurisdiction of the case. The Defendants have refused to honor the Order of the South Carolina Court of Appeals and continues to threaten, harass, embarrass, disrupt and interfere with the status quo and normal operations at the Church.

On multiple occasions the Defendant and Defendants' parties have come to the Church with threats of violence and profanity all under video. The video evidence has been given to Oconee County Sheriffs' Office. Each time there is a disturbance, we call the Oconee County Sheriffs' Office. There has been no action whereby Michael Davis has been awarded his position or any property of the Church or the Rural Economic Development Corporation Group which is also housed at the property 185 Cornerstone Drive, West Union Oconee County South Carolina.

On this past Saturday, August 25, 2018 ADT alerted the Plaintiffs of a burglary alarm and notified Oconee County Sheriffs' Office of the same. Upon arrival the Defendant was there with three individual including Maria Davis. The Church security officer and Associate Pastor Robert Weidendorf arrived with his weapon because Maria Davis and Scott Arnold had threatened him and this Petitioner only two weeks prior in the foyer of the Church, all on video. Once Associate pastor Weidendorf exited his vehicle, Maria Davis approached the car she arrived in, as to retrieve something when she was ordered by Michael Davis to "Maria, don't you do it",...leave it in the car". Plaintiff believes this reference was to a weapon being brought onto the property by Maria Davis.

Each time there is an incident, at the Cornerstone Cathedral, the Oconee County Sheriffs' Office is called to the scene, however because this is a complex civil matter, the Sheriff has not been

able to ascertain the proper facts. This is a very serious matter and highly charged emotionally. Plaintiff fears that the incidents are clearly escalating and there is protection

V.

APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER
AND TEMPORARY INJUNCTION

This is a very emotionally charged matter. The parties on all sides are dug into defending their respective positions. The matter cannot be solved amicably without Court action. For the reasons stated above. This Plaintiff-Appellant makes this application for a Temporary Restraining Order and Temporary Injunction because of the continued threat of harm and for the safety of Plaintiffs' children and family, as well as for the safety of those visiting the Church to worship and freely assemble in the Name of Faith.

Plaintiff-Appellant requests a Temporary Restraining Order to maintain the status quo pursuant to current Order of the South Carolina Court of Appeals. Plaintiff-Appellant asks the Court to restrain Defendants from:

Entering any part of the property located at 185 Cornerstone Drive West Union South Carolina in any respect. Plaintiff-Appellant also request that the Defendants be retrained from changing locks or restricting any access to the property by any means whatsoever. That the Defendant Michael Davis and/or his agents be placed on No Trespassing in addition to the current Order. Finally, that Defendants be restrained from bringing or processing any type of weapons, firearms or devices that may cause harm to anyone at this Church and Church property.

Plaintiff-Appellant will suffer imminent, irreparable harm for which no adequate remedy at law exists if Defendant Davis, Maria Davis and their agents are not enjoined from these actions.

Based upon the escalating actions of defendant Michael Davis and Maria Davis, there can be no remedy at law if, the plaintiff or plaintiff's family is harmed. This plaintiff may be forced to defend himself, or be injured and/or could suffer criminal prosecution for doing so as well. There appears to be no other remedy at law, if this TRO is not granted. By granting this TRO, the Court would only be enforcing what has already been ruled upon at this time.

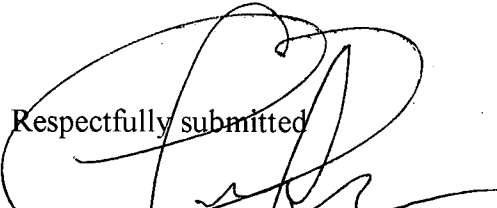
Plaintiff-Appellant Jones has no adequate remedy at law.

Plaintiff-Appellant Jones will likely recover from Defendant Davis on appeal because Jones has a constitutional right to bring this suit in his individual capacity without an attorney to represent him. On the basis that Jones cannot afford an attorney should not foreclose his right to justice under the Law.

There is not sufficient time to serve Defendant Davis with this application for injunctive relief and conduct a hearing on the application because Plaintiff-Appellant Jones will suffer imminent, irreparable injury, loss and/or damage if a temporary restraining order is not immediately issued, ex parte. The Defendant Michael Davis has informed the Oconee County Sheriff that he will be on the premises again this Saturday September 1, 2018 to change the locks at the Church 185 Cornerstone Drive.

WHEREFORE, upon Prayer, this Court is requested to act immediately before the matters escalate any further as evidenced by the Oconee County Sheriffs' Office numerous calls to the location. That this Honorable Court grant this TRO in all respects.

August 30, 2018

Respectfully submitted

Christopher Jones, Plaintiff-Appellant
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