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RECEIVED

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S.C. SUPREME COURT

January 2, 2019

The Honorable Daniel E. Shearouse
Clerk, South Carolina Supreme Court
P.O. Box 11330
Columbia, SC 29211

Re: *Mikal Mahdi v. State of South Carolina*
Calhoun County Case Number 2017-CP-09-00004
Appellate Case Number 2017-002212

Dear Mr. Shearouse:

Please allow this letter to respond to Ms. Hopkins email of this date requesting a status report regarding Mr. Mahdi's cases.

Mr. Mahdi filed this action on January 10, 2017 in the Court of Common Pleas for Calhoun County, seeking, in part, to invoke the Court's jurisdiction pursuant to S.C. Code § 17-27-45(B). Judge Early dismissed the action on July 6, 2017 and denied Mr. Mahdi's Rule 59(e), SCRCF motion on October 13, 2017. Mr. Mahdi appealed. This Court dismissed Mr. Mahdi's appeal on April 9, 2018, pursuant to Rule 203(c), SCACR, and denied his petition for rehearing on June 27, 2018. The Supreme Court of the United States denied Mr. Mahdi's petition for a writ of *certiorari* on December 3, 2018.

By text order dated February 24, 2017 (ECF No. 47), the Honorable Timothy M. Cain, United States District Court Judge for the District of South Carolina, granted Mr. Mahdi a stay of execution while his federal habeas cases is litigated, *Mahdi v. Stirling*, C/A No. 8:16-cv-03911-TMC. On September 24, 2018, Judge Cain granted the State's motion for summary judgment (ECF No. 138 and 139). On October 22, 2018, Mr. Mahdi filed a Fed. R. Civ. Pro. Rule 59(e) motion (ECF No. 144). This motion is under advisement, and Judge Cain requested the parties submit their positions on one of the issues raised in Mr. Mahdi's Rule 59(e) motion by January 14, 2019 (ECF No. 149). If the District Court does not reconsider its order granting the State summary judgment, then Mr. Mahdi will appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions or require additional information.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours very truly,

E. Charles Grose

E. Charles Grose, Jr.

*By: Laura
Wigmore
paralegal*

cc: Melody Brown, Esquire