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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 25, 2019

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

RE: Michael A. Richardson v. State – Appellate Case No. 2018-000964

Dear Mr. Shearouse:

On January 9, 2019, Michael A. Richardson, the petitioner in the above-referenced case, filed a Petition for Writ of Certiorari solely seeking affirmance of the post-conviction relief judge's order granting him belated appellate review pursuant to White v. State, 263 S.C 110, 208 S.E.2d 35 (1974). On that same date, Richardson also filed a Brief of Petitioner Pursuant to White v. State raising a direct appeal issue.

Because the State did not contest the granting of belated appellate review during the post-conviction relief proceedings, the State will not be contesting that particular matter on appeal. Therefore, please accept this letter in lieu of a formal return to Richardson's Petition for Writ of Certiorari. However, in the event this Court desires a formal return to the petition, undersigned counsel is fully prepared to promptly provide one upon request.

Additionally, the State intends to respond to the substantive issue raised in the Brief of Petitioner Pursuant to White v. State. Accordingly, the State is contemporaneously filing the Brief of Respondent Pursuant to White v. State along with this letter.

Furthermore, with the Court's permission, please add me as counsel of record for the State.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Farthing
Assistant Attorney General
Bar Number 76901

MRF/

cc: LaNelle Cantey DuRant, Esquire
Victim Advocacy Division