

March 28, 2019

Re: The State v. Leon E. Collier III  
Appellate Case No. 2019-000395  
Appeal Case No. 2016GS2601735

RECEIVED

APR 18 2019

SC Court of Appeals

South Carolina Appellate Court,

I am respectfully requesting an appeal of my case based on the

grounds of Ineffective counsel for reasons listed below.

During court, my Public Defender agreed upon my request to inform the Judge of specific details of the Autopsy and cause of death. He did not mention the following information as we agreed. During manual strangulation, there is a tiny bone in the throat that will be broken. Also there will be hemorrhaging in the eyes and also around the mouth. None of these were present during the Autopsy. The tox screen that was performed showed Alcohol, pain medicine and anxiety medicine in Christy's system. Because the tox screen was done using an outdated technique, the cause of death by means of an overdose cannot be ruled out nor can it confirm. When I was last with Christian, she fell asleep while we were role playing sexually. She had done the same thing to me on other occasions and I had no idea that she passed away. I have believed all along that she overdosed.

My lawyer also told me to agree with everything the Solicitor says when the judge asks me. I did not agree with the majority of what was said. However, I was made to agree as instructed by my public defender and while I was under oath. I felt that my lawyer was not ready for a trial and I was scared into signing a plea. The Solicitor also stated that I had motive because of text messages to another man. This information came from my Ex-Girlfriend's phone and not Christians. Christian had an iPhone that was not listed as evidence. In these texts, she states to my Ex that she was in another state. She never left South Carolina after we were together. There was also no information from AT&T, her service provider, to prove these fake accusations. It was simply Christian causing drama with my ex-girlfriend. This was also to be explained to the judge, on my behalf by my lawyer, but was not mentioned. The autopsy states that part of determining the cause of death was based on what was said by detectives. It was not fully based on science.

I feel that my lawyer did not represent my best interests when we were in court. I feel that he lead me down the wrong path by not speaking to the judge about the information I stated above. I am officially requesting an appeal of my case on grounds of ineffective council. I would like to thank you for your time and concern in this matter.

Sincerely,

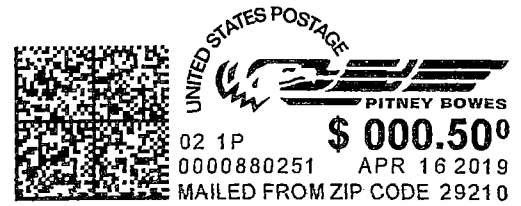


Leon E. Collier III  
379313

North Carolina SCDC# 579313  
Irklend Reception and Evaluation Center C1-25  
344 Broad River Rd.  
Columbia, SC 29210

**LEGAL  
MAIL  
ONLY**

**RECEIVED**



**APR 16 2019**

**IRKLAND R&E CENTER  
MAILROOM**

*Clerk of SC Court of Appeals  
South Carolina Court of Appeals  
P.O. Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211*

**RECEIVED**

**APR 18 2019**

**SC Court of Appeals**

**SCDC**

**MAY 10 2019**

**MAIL ROOM**

29211629 2012