

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

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August 12, 2019

Richard Harold Warder, Esquire
PO Box 26133
Greenville SC 29616

Re: Rufus Raiden, III, v. State
Appellate Case No. 2019-000700
Lower Court Case No. 2016CP3900512

Dear Counsel:

Although the notice of appeal was filed in April 2019, no further action has been taken to perfect this case. While this office has been patient up until this point and has granted an extension for your client to complete and return an affidavit of indigency, this case must move forward.

Therefore, within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter, you must either make a motion to be relieved as counsel for the petitioner under Rule 264(b) of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR),¹ or provide this Court with a copy of correspondence showing the transcript has been ordered in the manner specified by Rule 207, SCACR, if you are going to continue to represent him in this case.

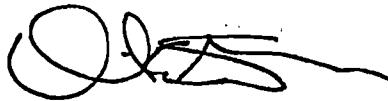
¹ As I understand it, you were retained to represent petitioner before the circuit court, but apparently have not been retained to represent petitioner in this appellate proceeding.

I am providing your client with a copy of this letter. I would strongly encourage him to either retain you or some other counsel to represent him in this matter, or if he is indigent, to seek representation from the Division of Appellate Defense of the Office of Indigent Defense. Being represented by an attorney trained in the law would be extremely beneficial to him in this case.

I have enclosed an affidavit of indigency which petitioner can complete if he believes that he is indigent and cannot afford to hire counsel. **If petitioner believes that he is indigent, this affidavit must be completed by petitioner and returned to this office within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter.**

I warn petitioner that if he fails to take action to either retain counsel or complete and return the enclosed affidavit of indigency, the Court may find he has waived his right to be represented by counsel and require him to represent himself in this appellate case. If petitioner represents himself in this case, this Court will require full compliance with all applicable rules and procedures, and failure to comply with such rules and procedures could result in the dismissal of the matter and forfeiture of the right to discretionary review. I again strongly encourage him to either hire counsel or seek to have counsel appointed if he is indigent.

Very truly yours,



CLERK

cc: Kelly Oppenheimer, Esquire
Mr. Rufus Raiden, III (with Affidavit of Indigency)