



Office of the City Attorney

November 13, 2019

South Carolina Court of Appeals
Jenny Abbott Kitchings, Clerk
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

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NOV 15 2019
SC Court of Appeals

RE: The State v. Robert Louis Garrett, Jr.
Appellate Case No. 2018-000552

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

I received your letter Dated November 8, 2019 regarding the above defendant's motion for appointment of outside counsel. I am not in possession of the defendant's motion but can inform the Court that there were no competency issues raised by either attorney appointed to represent Mr. Garrett on the underlying False Report of a Felony charge (2015GS2310210) for which I was the prosecutor while I was with the 13th Circuit Solicitor's Office. No Blair hearing or other mental health review was conducted other than the Hon. Edward Miller's discussion with the defendant when his case was called for trial in October of 2017. The defendant moved to have his then-appointed counsel, Carlyle Steele, relieved as counsel. Judge Miller granted his motion. Continued discussions between the court and the defendant led to the court finding the defendant in contempt of court and sentencing him to some period of incarceration to be served consecutively to the sentence he was then serving in SCDC. At that time, I indicated to the court that the State would be dismissing the underlying charge based on the fact that the defendant had been sentenced to some period of consecutive time, which had been the State's recommendation during plea negotiations. There was no jury or bench trial on the underlying indictment referenced above.

If I can provide any additional information please let me know and I will do so to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,

Leigh Booth Paoletti

LBP

cc: Robert Louis Garrett, Jr., Inmate 291096
William M. Blich, Jr. Esq.



Office of the City Attorney
P.O. Box 2207
Greenville, SC 29602

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

South Carolina Court of Appeals
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