



The Supreme Court of South Carolina

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POST OFFICE BOX 11330
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA
29211

1231 GERVAIS STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201

TELEPHONE: (803) 734-1080

FAX: (803) 734-1499

www.sccourts.org

February 26, 2020

Lillian Loch Meadows, Esquire
S.C. Attorney General's Office
PO Box 11549
Columbia SC 29211

Re: James R. Smith v. State
Appellate Case No. 2020-000322
Lower Court Case No. 2018CP3203662

Dear Ms. Meadows:

This Court has received a *pro se* notice of appeal in this case.

The final order indicates that petitioner did not file a response to the conditional order of dismissal.¹ The public case index for Lexington County, however, indicates that he did in fact file a response, which I have enclosed. Further, it appears that a motion to amend the application for post-conviction relief was filed in the circuit court, but the public case index fails to indicate that any ruling was made on this motion.

In light of the foregoing, I ask that you please explain why this Court should not vacate the order on appeal and remand for the circuit court to consider the response to the conditional order of dismissal and motion to amend. This explanation

¹ While there is no event on the public case index for Lexington County showing the filing of the Conditional Order of Dismissal, your office has provided this Court with a copy of this order.

must be provided within ten (10) days of the date of this letter.

Finally, Mr. Smith has filed a motion seeking to proceed in forma pauperis in this case. Since no filing fee is required for this case, no action will be taken on this motion.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'D' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

CLERK

Enclosure

cc: Mr. James R. Smith, 197390
Lexington County Clerk of Court