

The South Carolina Court of Appeals

William Welch, Petitioner,

v.

State of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2017-002375

ORDER

Petitioner's application for post-conviction relief was denied by Judge George C. James. No notice of appeal was filed. Petitioner now seeks a writ of certiorari from a consent order issued by Judge R. Ferrell Cothran, Jr. granting Petitioner a belated review of Judge James's order pursuant to *Austin v. State*, 305 S.C. 453, 409 S.E.2d 395 (1991).

The panel voted to grant the petition for writ of certiorari from Judge Cothran's order, dispense with further briefing, and conduct an *Austin* review of Judge James's order.

Petitioner's counsel asserts that the petition from Judge James's order is without merit and requests permission to withdraw from further representation. Petitioner has not filed a pro se petition.

Based on the vote of the panel after careful consideration of the entire appendix as required by *Johnson v. State*, 294 S.C. 310, 364 S.E.2d 201 (1988), the petition for a writ of certiorari is denied and counsel's request to withdraw is granted.

FOR THE COURT

BY

V. Claire Allen

CLERK

FILED
May 04 2020

Columbia, South Carolina

cc:

David Alexander, Esquire

Megan Harrigan Jameson, Esquire

William Ricky Welch, 208451

The Honorable R. Ferrell Cothran, Jr.