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S.C. SUPREME COURT

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Supreme Court

APPEAL FROM HORRY COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas

Steven H. John, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. 2017-CP-26-07411

(Appellate Case No. 2020-000092)

Jimmy A. Richardson, II, Solicitor for the 15th Judicial Circuit,
on Behalf of the 15th Circuit Drug Enforcement Unit,

Appellant,

v.

Twenty Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-One and 00/100 Dollars
(\$20,771.00), U.S. Currency and Travis Green,

Respondent.

APPELLANT'S PETITION FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION

This motion is filed pursuant to Rule 263, SCACR, and seeks expedited consideration of the instant appeal.

Due to the Honorable Steven H. John's Administrative Order, forfeiture actions in the 15th Judicial Circuit have been effectively stayed since February 21, 2019. (Ex. 1, Administrative Order 1). This has created a backlog of approximately 150 pending forfeiture cases wherein the owner of the seized property is undetermined and neither the respondent nor the state can access the property. These pending cases include settlement agreements, defaults, and cases for trial.

While Judge John withdrew his Administrative Order on April 30, 2019 (Ex. 2, Administrative Order 2), on August 28, 2019, Judge John found S.C.'s Forfeiture Statutes unconstitutional. In turn the Chief Administrative Judge for Common Pleas in the 15th Judicial Circuit stayed all forfeiture actions pending the outcome of this appeal. (Ex. 3, Stay Order).

In order to lift the stay of the approximately 150 pending forfeiture actions in the 15th Judicial Circuit, Appellant requests expedited consideration of this appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

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