

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

DANIEL E. SHEAROUSE
CLERK OF COURT

BRENDA F. SHEALY
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

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

October 27, 2020

Daniel A. Speights, Esquire
PO Box 685
100 Oak Street East
Hampton SC 29924

Algernon Gibson Solomons, III, Esquire
PO Box 685
Hampton SC 29924

Demetri K. Koutrakos, Esquire
PO Box 1390
Columbia SC 29202-1390

Louis H. Lang, Esquire
PO Box 1390
Columbia SC 29202-1390

Susan Ranee Saunders, Esquire
321 Wingo Way
Suite 103
Mount Pleasant SC 29246

Re: William Loflin v. BMP Development, LP
Appellate Case No. 2019-001768

Dear Counsel:

As you know, oral arguments will be held in this case at 10:30 am on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 in the Supreme Court Courtroom in Columbia, South Carolina. Since COVID-19 still poses a significant threat, the arguments in this case will be subject to the following:

- (1) Only the lawyers actually arguing will be allowed to enter the Supreme Court Building. All other persons, including lawyers who are not arguing and the parties, may view the proceeding on the Supreme Court Video Portal at <https://www.sccourts.org/SCvideo>. In addition to live streaming, a recording of the arguments will be posted to the Video Portal on the afternoon following the arguments.
- (2) Each party may only have one lawyer present in the courtroom to argue on behalf of that party. Further, if multiple parties are represented by the same lawyers, only one of those lawyers will be allowed to argue. Therefore, the maximum number of lawyers I anticipate allowing to enter the Supreme Court Building for the arguments is 2. If you are one of the counsel who will be arguing, I ask that you notify this office of this fact by November 10, 2020. You may send this notification by e-mail to suptfilings@sccourts.org.
- (3) The lawyers arguing will be admitted to the Supreme Court Building no earlier than 10 minutes prior to the start of the arguments. Please plan your arrival time accordingly.
- (4) A mask must be worn at all times while in the Supreme Court Building and grounds, including the front portico and the parking lot. The mask may only be removed while presenting your arguments to the Court. Further, social distancing of at least 6 feet must be maintained at all times while in the Supreme Court Building and grounds, including the front portico and the parking lot. I also alert you that plexiglass shields will be used at the counsel tables, podium and bench to help further reduce the risk.
- (5) The lawyers who will be arguing will have assigned seating within the Courtroom designed to minimize close contact between the lawyers. When you enter the Courtroom, please immediately go to your assigned seat and remain there until you are called to argue. While I know the normal practice would be for the lawyers to exchange pleasantries with each other upon entering the Courtroom, I would ask

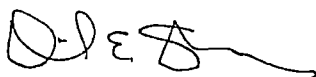
that you refrain from doing this unless it can be done from your assigned seat.

- (6) Prior to the start of the arguments, the Courtroom, Lobby and Restrooms will be sanitized. Further, the podium area will be sanitized between the arguments by each lawyer. Therefore, you should expect some delay between each lawyer's arguments. Please do not come forward to the podium until sanitizing is completed and you are directed to come forward. When you complete your argument, please reinstall your mask before returning to your assigned seat.
- (7) You will be issued a bottle of hand sanitizer. I ask that you use this immediately prior to coming forward to the podium, or prior to going to, or upon returning from, the restrooms. This will help minimize the risk of contamination of the podium area or the restrooms.
- (8) Upon the conclusion of the oral arguments, I ask that you exit the Courtroom in a manner that maintains appropriate social distancing. Please do not gather to talk until you exit the Building and the front portico.

I deeply regret that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our ability to conduct oral arguments without restrictions, and I can assure you that the Supreme Court of South Carolina looks forward with great anticipation to the day when this pandemic no longer adversely affects our ability to conduct oral arguments.

If you have any questions or concerns related to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. E. A.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

CLERK