

South Carolina Court Administration
1015 Sumter Street, Suite 200
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

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NOV 23 2020

SC Court of Appeals

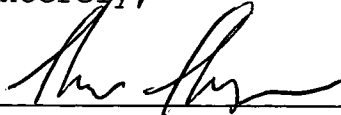
Dear Court Administration,

I, Thomas Thompson #80681, being the Appellant in the Case No. 2018-001557, Thompson v SCDPPPS come to this agency for redress of an issue regarding the timely filing of a Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the State Supreme Court and the payment of a filing fee. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the SCDC issued guidelines starting in March 2020 which prohibited all non-essential staff entering the institutions which stopped the operation of the Law Library thus denying access to research materials and the SCACR. On April 13, 2020 inmates were notified via the KIOSK system that an Order was issued from the State Supreme Court, Appellate Case No. 2020-000447 regarding the amended procedures during the Covid-19 pandemic. This Order which states that there is a 20 day extension for filings due on or after the date of the Order, March 20, 2020 is still posted on the KIOSK and no amended version has been posted. Tyger River CI has been under either partial or full quarantine since the spring of 2020 and just recently was declared clear of positive covid-19 residents. After a Petition for rehearing in the Court of Appeals was denied I filed for a Writ of Certiorari in the Supreme Court which I gave to the mail officer at the first opportunity. A letter was included which stated that I was unable to determine the filing fee but was able and willing to pay any fee upon notification. This letter was dated Oct. 1 but was stamped received by the Tyger River mailroom on Oct. 6. Thereafter I received a Remittitur in this case dated Oct. 9. On Oct.23 I received an order (Appellate Case No.2020-001344) dismissing my Petition for filing late and not paying the filing fee dated Oct.15. I filed a motion for reversal and received the enclosed order of dismissal dated Nov.10 along with the return of a \$25 check submitted as filing fee. The Tyger River Ci law library reopened on Oct.22 and

An Westlaw App on the recently issued Tablets began operating the first of November. It should be noted that it was not an unreasonable assumption as to the \$25 filing fee on my motion since I had paid a \$25 fee for the aforementioned Petition for Rehearing in the COA.

As a Pro Se litigant operating in these most unusual times I have made every good faith effort to follow procedures and guidelines in this matter. I respectfully request that I be allowed to submit the requisite \$250 filing fee and have my Petition for Certiorari filed in the State Supreme Court.

Sincerely,



Thomas Thompson #80681
Pro Se Litigant
Tyger River CI 1-225B
200 Prison Road
Enoree, S.C. 29335

November 30, 2020

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

Thomas Thompson, Petitioner,

v.

South Carolina Department of Probation, Pardon and
Parole Services, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2020-001344

Lower Court or Tribunal Case No. 2018ALJ150008AP

ORDER

Petitioner has filed a motion for reversal. This motion has been construed as a petition for rehearing regarding this Court's order dated October 15, 2020.

With this petition, petitioner has included a filing fee of \$25. Since a \$50 fee is required by Rule 240(d) of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules, the petition for rehearing is dismissed for failing to pay the appropriate filing fee.¹

FOR THE COURT

BY



CLERK

¹ In the petition for rehearing, petitioner relies on this Court's order dated March 20, 2020, entitled "Operation of the Appellate Courts During the Coronavirus Emergency." Petitioner's attention is directed to the fact that this order was amended on May 29, 2020, and the section providing for the automatic extension was amended. This amended section states:

(1)(2) Automatic Extension. The due dates for all Appellate Court filings due during the period of March 20, 2020, thru June 8, 2020, are automatically extended for twenty (20) days. [footnote omitted]. Lawyers and litigants are warned that this automatic extension does not extend the time to serve a notice of appeal under Rules 203, 243, and 247, SCACR. This automatic extension is inapplicable to due dates after June 8, 2020.

Columbia, South Carolina
November 10, 2020

cc: Tommy Evans, Jr., Esquire
John Benjamin Aplin, Esquire
Mr. Thomas Thompson, 00080681

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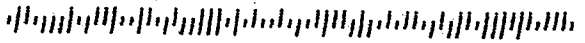
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TYGER MAILROOM

THOMAS THOMPSON, 00080681
TYGER RIVER CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION
UPPER YARD
200 PRISON ROAD
ENOREE SC 29335-9308

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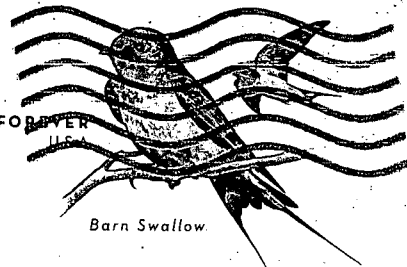
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Tyger River Ct 1-225B
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LEGAL

SC Court Administration
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