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**RECEIVED**

**Jan 20 2021**

**SC Court of Appeals**

January 20, 2021

V. Claire Allen  
Chief Deputy Clerk  
South Carolina Court of Appeals  
PO Box 11629  
Columbia, SC 29211

Re: Dorchester County Taxpayers Association v. Dorchester County  
Case No.: 2018-001262

Dear Ms. Allen,

Both Mr. Rose and I are available on May 3-6. I would prefer that the argument not be scheduled on May 11-13 due to a previously scheduled professional conference that I will be attending remotely this year and for which I have some planning responsibility.

I would also respectfully request that these arguments be scheduled by videoconference rather than held in person. Since I am not in one of the initial priority groups, I will likely not have been vaccinated by the time this argument is heard, and I and my family have been extremely careful in avoiding public gatherings and meetings due to some health vulnerabilities in my family. I suspect that I am probably not alone among my colleagues in preferring to avoid appearing in a courtroom for these arguments until after vaccinations have been more generally available and the infection numbers have come down significantly from where they are now.

Please let me know if you need any further information from me and have any additional questions. I appreciate your assistance and guidance, as always.

Sincerely,

AUSTEN & GOWDER, LLC

/s. W. Andrew Gowder, Jr.

W. Andrew Gowder, Jr.