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RECEIVED

Jul 22 2021

SC Court of Appeals

July 22, 2021

VIA Email
Mary-Caitlyn Singleton
South Carolina Court of Appeals
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia, SC 29211

RE: Carr Farms, Inc. v. Susannah Smith Watson
Case No. 2021-000659

Dear Ms. Singleton:

Thank you again for speaking with me yesterday regarding the Notice submitted on July 21, 2021. As I mentioned during our call, the original Order which has been appealed was entered by the Honorable Alison R. Lee on July 26, 2019, and reflects “[t]his matter came before the Court on July 30, 2018.” Based upon the date referenced and noting that Judge Lee was presiding in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit during the subject week, we reviewed the schedule and identified Stacy S. Johnson as the Court Reporter working with Judge Lee during the subject week. Based upon this, on June 29, 2021, we sent the attached correspondence to Ms. Johnson. Thereafter, on June 30, 2021, we received an email from Ms. Johnson indicating that she was with Judge Lee on the date in question, but that they were in Edgefield County, not Saluda County. She further reported that she had no record of having been involved in the matter at issue. Based upon this response, my office started investigating the situation in an attempt to discern who would be the correct court reporter, and possibly whether the date could have been incorrectly entered. This included exchanged emails with counsel for Ms. Watson. Ultimately, it appears that the hearing date referenced in the Order was a hearing before Judge Kinlaw on that date with Steven E. LeBlanc serving as Court Reporter. Because of the confusion, I emailed Mr. LeBlanc on June 30, 2021, to check on this before submitting the Transcript Request Form. Mr. LeBlanc responded on July 11, 2021, that he was the correct court reporter and on July 14, 2021, we mailed him the

required fee. Thus, while our submission of the transcript funds may have been made outside of the time periods outlined in Rule 207 of the SCACR, our original request, albeit to the who turned out to be the incorrect court reporter, was timely. As reflected on that initial correspondence, Mr. Draisen was copied.

From our call, I understood that a motion to order the transcript outside of the filing deadlines would not be required based upon the foregoing explanation as the original request was timely. If my understanding is incorrect, and I do, in fact, need to file a formal motion, please let me know. If there are any other matters referenced in the correspondence that have not been addressed herein, please just let me know and I will promptly address them.

With kind regards, I remain

Very truly yours,


Jonathan M Milling

Cc: Daniel Draisen, Esq.
South Carolina Court Administration