

RECEIVED

Aug 04 2021

SC Court of Appeals

FORM 1
NOTICE OF APPEAL IN A CIVIL CASE

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals
[In The Chester County Court]

APPEAL FROM CHESTER COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas

The Honorable Eugene C. Griffith

Case No. 2017-CP-12- 0079

Artavius Rice

Respondent,

v.

Steve M. Bright individually
abd as a agent of Defender
Services Inc, Adam Jesse
Hegler, Cory E. Manning,
Joseph Alexander Sherard,
Ashley Cole Story, Andrea
Eaton White, Edward Scott
Winburn, Shannon Marie Polvi

Appellant.

FILED
26 JAN '21 AM 11:20

CLRK OF CRT CHESTER SC

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Tanya Murphy appeals the order of the Honorable Eugene C. Griffith dated January 11, 2021. Appellant printed this filing on January 25, 2021 from the SC Courts website.

January 25, 2021

The Honorable Eugene C. Griffith, Jr.
P.O. Drawer 10
1226 College St.
Newberry, SC 29108
803- 321-1430

Tanya Murphy

1/26/2021

Janya Murphy
PO Box 292 Rock Hill S.C. 29731
janyamurphy33@yahoo.com
803-374-7461

Case 2017-CP-12-0079

FILED
26 JAN '21 AM 11:20

CLRK OF CRT CHESTER SC

To whom it may concern, I Janya Murphy came to court on January 7, 2021 for a pretrial brief and discovery. While in attendance Judge Eugene Griffith added Artamius Rice as a party to this case. Artamius has been diagnosed with multiple mental health issues which the Judge and Defendants are aware of. During this hearing Artamius could not recite his address (I have ordered the transcript from Micheal Watkins the court reporter). Artamius has no knowledge of his case or paperwork. Artamius does not know his previous Attorneys to pursue his claim and is incompetent to his case. I asked the Judge had he looked over his Mental Health issues and he responded yes, but on the order he stated he asked about his education & Health, I stated Mental Health.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
 COUNTY OF CHESTER)
)
 Artavius Rice,)
)
 Plaintiff)
 vs.)
)
 Chester County School District,)
 Defender Services, Inc., and Steve M.)
 Bright, individually and as agent of)
 Defender Services, Inc.)
)
 Defendants)
 _____)

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
 SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 Case No. 2017-CP-12- 0079

ORDER

This matter came before the Court on or about January 7, 2021, on the motion of the Plaintiff, Tanya Murphy, as Natural Guardian, to seek dismissal of the assigned judge and on the joint motion of the defendants, Chester County School District, Defender Services, Inc., and Steve M. Bright, to join Artavius Rice as a necessary party.

The motion to dismiss Judge Eugene Griffith, Jr. from this matter is respectfully denied. Ms. Murphy sought to have the judge dismissed or requested that he recuse himself. The basis of the motion was that a prior hearing was cancelled without notice to Ms. Murphy. The court explained that he and his staff had an unexpected quarantine imposed for two weeks after a COVID contact during a prior week of court at another county court house. The Court also notes that Mrs. Murphy required communication from the court to be via regular mail.

The motion to add Artavius Rice as a necessary party is granted. The Court inquired and asked Mr. Rice about his level of education and health to determine if he is able and competent to appear as a party in this case now that he is over the age of eighteen (18). Mr. Rice confirmed that he felt fine to appear as a party. Therefore, the caption will be amended to reflect Artavius Rice as the plaintiff. The Court was aware that prior counsel had been relieved and that no

substitute counsel had appeared to represent Ms. Murphy. Upon response to inquiries, Mr. Rice indicated that he would like to retain counsel to represent him. The Court suggested that the South Carolina Bar Referral service would be a good place to get some attorney references. The Court grants Artavius Rice until May 1st, 2021 to hire an attorney to represent him on this matter.

The Court will reconvene for a status conference and to consider any motions which may be filed in the interim in early May 2021. If Mr. Rice secures representation sooner, any hearings necessary can be scheduled upon request by any of the parties.

Any other motions or issues not addressed herein are held in abeyance.

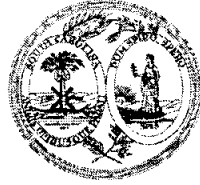
IT IS SO ORDERED

_____, 2020
_____, South Carolina

Eugene C. Griffith, Jr.

FILED
26 JAN '21 AM 11:21

CLRK OF CRT CHESTER SC



Chester Common Pleas

Case Caption: Tanya Murphy as the natural mother and legal guardian of minor A R
VS Chester County School District , defendant, et al
Case Number: 2017CP12 0079
Type: Order/Other

It is so ordered

Eugene C. Griffith, Jr. 2154

Electronically signed on 2021-01-11 11:26:52 page 3 of 3

FILED
26 JAN '21 AM 11:21

CLRK OF CRT CHESTER SC