



# The Supreme Court of South Carolina

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October 18, 2021

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Re: Martha M. Fountain v. Fred's, Inc.  
Appellate Case No. 2020-000651

Dear Counsel:

The arguments in this case will be conducted live in the Supreme Court Courtroom in Columbia at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2021. The following times have been allocated for the arguments:

Petitioner:	15 minutes
Respondents:	15 minutes
Petitioner in Reply:	5 minutes

Due to the lingering effects of COVID-19, the arguments in this case will be subject to the following:

(1) Each party will be limited to having two counsel present for the arguments. Further, if multiple parties are represented by the same lawyers, only two of those lawyers may be present for the arguments.

*I ask that each party provide the names of the lawyer(s) who will be present in the Supreme Court Building on that party's behalf. This information should be provided by e-mail to [supctfilings@sccourts.org](mailto:supctfilings@sccourts.org) by Monday, November 1, 2021.*

(2) All other lawyers in this case 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.

(3) Lawyers will be allowed to enter the Supreme Court Building no earlier than 10 minutes prior to the start of the arguments. Please plan your arrival time accordingly.

(4) Lawyers entering the Supreme Court Building will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms. You will not be permitted into the building if you are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 or if you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past ten days.

(5) 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 a lawyer is actually presenting his or her argument to the Court. Further, social distancing must be maintained at all times while in the Supreme Court Building and grounds.

(6) 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.

I look forward to seeing the lawyers who will be arguing this case. 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,

*Patricia A. Howard*

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