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SC Court of Appeals

The South Carolina Court of Appeals

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November 03, 2021

Ms. Kathrine Haggard Hudgins, Esquire
1330 Lady St., Ste.401
Columbia SC 29201

Mr. William M. Blicht, Esquire
PO Box 11549
Columbia SC 29211-1549

Re: The State v. Benjamin Jerome Blake
Lower Court Case No. 2015GS2500380, 2015GS2500381,
2015GS2500382, 2015GS2500383
Appellate Case No. 2018-001943

Dear Counsel:

This appeal will be argued on 12/7/2021 at 10:40 AM in Courtroom I. The following oral argument times have been allocated:

Appellant:	10 minutes
Respondent:	10 minutes
Appellant in reply:	5 minutes

Arguments frequently begin before the time set. Please ARRIVE 15 MINUTES prior to your scheduled argument time.

In recognition of the threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we ask counsel to be mindful of the following policies and precautions:

1. Only the lawyers arguing the case will be permitted to attend oral argument. All other persons may view the oral argument via the virtual courtroom, which is accessible at <https://scjudicial.webex.com/scjudicial/onstage/g.php?MTID=eb51ad7011021ff736d1c8051d8718920>.
2. Face coverings are required at all times while in the Courthouse. You may remove your mask only when at the podium making arguments before the Court.
3. Counsel entering the Courthouse 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 within the past ten days. If you are experiencing symptoms or have tested positive within the past ten days, contact the Clerk's office for further guidance.
4. Please maintain social distancing, defined as keeping a distance of at least 6 feet from others, at all times while in the Courthouse.
5. Counsel will be asked to take a seat upon entering the courtroom. Please stay in your seat until you are called to argue. We understand the need to exchange pleasantries, but ask that you keep your seat and remain masked when speaking with others.
6. Hand sanitizer is available in the courtroom, and we ask that counsel use it liberally as you enter or leave the courtroom and/or restrooms.
7. If you arrive before the argument before yours has ended, please wait in the hallway until your case is called, while maintaining social distance. Upon conclusion of your argument, please exit the Courthouse as expeditiously as possible. Do not gather to talk until you have left the building.

The Court requests a signed acknowledgement verifying receipt of notification of the date and time set for oral argument. You must sign and date the acknowledgement below, then return to the following address:

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

We are looking forward to resuming normalcy, including in-person oral arguments, as the pandemic draws to a close. We regret the continued restrictions and hope you understand our goal is to keep everyone safe while efficiently deciding your case.

Very truly yours,


CLERK

cc: Alan McCrory Wilson, Esquire

Acknowledgement received in Appellate Case No. 2018-001943.

Signature: Kathrine H. Hudgins

Date: 11/4/21

Print Name: Kathrine H. Hudgins