

**RECEIVED**

**Jan 24 2022**

**SC Court of Appeals**

January 21 2022

Dear Andrew,

I was disheartened to read your letter, addressed to Jim and me, withdrawing from my case. As written, an uninformed reader of your letter and motions to withdraw could surmise that I knowingly and willingly participated in the failure to pay your firm's fees.

As you know, I began my case with another law firm, which I paid in full, before you came on board at Jim's direction. Your discussions about fees for services were with Jim and you signed a contract with him. I did not receive one invoice during the course of your representation, nor was I made aware of the past due balance until recent months. When you informed me of that fact, you are aware that I did everything in my power to persuade Jim to pay what you said Nelson Mullins was due. While you may not view this as an important distinction to make in the process of withdrawing from my case, you are aware of that significance to me.

The failure to pay Nelson Mullins' fees is regrettable. However, I did not create that situation. A simple substitution of Jim's name for the pronoun "you" in your January 14<sup>th</sup> letter, addressed to both Jim and me, would have made that fact clear.

Please forward to me the questions you received from the appellate court last year that you said were never answered, so that I can be up-to-date on my case.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Schoumacher