



The Supreme Court of South Carolina

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April 8, 2022

Tristan Michael Shaffer, Esquire
PO Box 1027
Chapin, SC 29036

Re: Christopher L. Williams v. State
Appellate Case No. 2022-000376
Lower Court Case No. 2011CP1500402

Dear Counsel:

Mr. Williams has filed a *pro se* notice of appeal in this case. Since the Public Case Index for Colleton County indicates that you were his counsel before the circuit court, I remind you that you remain his counsel before this Court. Rule 71.1(g), South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure; Rule 264(a), South Carolina Appellate Court Rules (SCACR).

This matter has been assigned the appellate case number that appears above. Please use this number on all future correspondence relating to this matter.

All parties to this matter are advised that all filings must comply with the requirements of Rule 243, SCACR. The SCACR are available online at www.sccourts.org/courtreg. Additionally, any filings submitted by counsel admitted in South Carolina must include counsel's bar number.

The attention of the parties is directed to the order relating to the inclusion of personal data identifiers and other sensitive information in documents filed with the Supreme Court of South Carolina and the South Carolina Court of Appeals. The order can be found at www.sccourts.org/whatsnew/displaywhatsnew.cfm?indexID=932.

Please note that the responsibility for insuring that information is redacted or sealed as required by this order rests with counsel and the parties. This office will not review filings for redaction or to determine if materials should be sealed.

To determine the timeliness of the service of the notice of appeal, I ask you to please advise this Court of the date on which you received written notice of entry of the final order dated July 8, 2020, which was filed in the circuit court on July 13, 2020. This date should be provided within ten (10) days of the date of this letter.

Further, since the order of the circuit court determined that this action is barred as being successive and as being untimely under the statute of limitations, Rule 243(c), SCACR, requires you to provide a written explanation as to why this determination was improper. This explanation must contain sufficient facts, argument and citation to legal authority to show that there is an arguable basis for asserting that the determination by the lower court was improper. The failure to make a sufficient showing may result in the dismissal of this matter.

In the event you determine that you do not have a good faith explanation to provide pursuant to Rule 243(c), you must provide this Court with a letter stating that as an officer of the Court you are unable to set forth any arguable basis for asserting the determination by the PCR judge was improper. The letter should also advise petitioner that he has twenty (20) days from the date of the letter to file a *pro se* explanation as to why the petitioner believes that this determination by the circuit court was improper. *Dennison v. State*, 371 S.C. 221, 639 S.E.2d 35 (2006). The letter filed with this Court should include proof of service showing that a copy of the letter has been sent to the petitioner.

Please either provide the explanation required by Rule 243(c) or the response

permitted by *Dennison* within ten (10) days of the date of this letter.

Very truly yours,

Patricia A. Howard

CLERK

cc: Elizabeth Hedgecoe Neyle, Esquire
Alan McCrory Wilson, Esquire
Mr. Christopher L. Williams

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

PATRICIA A. HOWARD, CLERK OF COURT

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