

From: Salley Elliott (C057924) <Elliott.Salley@doc.sc.gov>
To: Pisarik, HollyHollyPisarik@gov.sc.gov
Date: 3/2/2016 10:42:40 AM
Subject: RE: Michael Heath Bolin v. SCDC

Holly – In case you need an official correction, this is to confirm that I intended to advise in the email below that the Director does not intend to pursue an appeal from the Court of Appeals to the S.C. Supreme Court. So sorry for the omission of this very important word! --Salley

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From: Salley Elliott (C057924)
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2016 4:12 PM
To: 'HollyPisarik@gov.sc.gov'; Bryan Stirling (C055056)
Cc: 'matthew.buchanan@ppp.sc.gov'; Christina Bigelow (C057846); Stephanie Givens (C055503)
Subject: Michael Heath Bolin v. SCDC

CONFIDENTIAL LEGAL EMAIL

The Director wanted me to reach out to let you know that he has reviewed and does intend to pursue an appeal from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court in Michael Heath Bolin v SCDC. It is the opinion of SCDC that additional appeal will not be successful and that the Court of Appeals' opinion clarified any statutory conflict and specifically stated the legislative intent.

As a matter of background information, the Court of Appeals reversed the decision of former Administrative Law Judge Carolyn Matthews in this case upholding a decision by SCDC regarding sentence credits and projected release date by treating inmate Bolin's convictions as an 85% but parolable offense. Using a statutory construction analysis, the Court of Appeals concluded that the 2010 Omnibus Crime Reduction and Sentencing Reform Act provided for parole eligibility, supervised furlough, work release, work credits, education credits, and good time credits for Bolin's offenses contrary to another statutory provision which previously made the offenses 85% offenses. SCDC petitioned for rehearing and requested for rehearing *en banc*. The Court of Appeals withdrew its November opinion and substituted and refiled an opinion on February 24, 2016. The substituted opinion corrected some factual inaccuracies but left end result of the opinion the same.

SCDC calculated in November that the Court of Appeals' opinion will result in the release of 167 inmates with offenses/sentences falling within the same category as Bolin. It will also reduce the number of individuals supervised by PPPS. We also calculated in November that the opinion will result in the release of 659 inmates in the next 18 months. We are requesting more current information regarding the number of inmates impacted.

Please call me if you have any questions or would like to discuss the appeal!

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