

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE SUPREME COURT

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S.C. SUPREME COURT

COLLETON COUNTY
Court of General Sessions
The Honorable Clifton B. Newman, Circuit Court Judge

Case No. _____

Richard Alexander Murdaugh..... Petitioner,

v.

The Honorable Clifton B. Newman, in his capacity as a Circuit Court Judge,
and the State of South Carolina Respondents.

**MOTION TO STAY
TRIAL COURT PROCEEDINGS
(Expedited Consideration Requested)**

Petitioner Richard Alexander Murdaugh hereby moves the Court to stay all trial court proceedings to which Petitioner is a party and over which the Honorable Clifton Newman, Circuit Judge, presides, pending the Court’s ruling on Petitioner’s Petition for a Writ of Prohibition prohibiting Judge Newman from presiding over those proceedings. A stay of trial court proceedings would serve the purpose of a temporary injunction to preserve the status quo until the Court rules on the merits of Mr. Murdaugh’s petition for a Writ of Prohibition. *See Cnty. Council of Charleston v. Felkel*, 244 S.C. 480, 483–84, 137 S.E.2d 577, 578 (1964) (“The sole object of a temporary injunction is to preserve the subject of controversy in the condition which it is at the time of the Order until opportunity is offered for full and deliberate investigation and to preserve

the existing status during litigation, and the granting of a temporary injunction rests in the discretion of the Court.” (citations omitted)); *Powell v. Immanuel Baptist Church*, 261 S.C. 219, 221, 199 S.E.2d 60, 61 (1973) (“[T]he sole purpose of a temporary injunction is to preserve the status quo, and thus avoid possible irreparable injury to plaintiff, pending the litigation.”).

Mr. Murdaugh respectfully requests expedited consideration of this Motion because Judge Newman is scheduled to preside over a criminal trial in which Mr. Murdaugh is the defendant in Beaufort County starting on November 27, 2023, and because a hearing date may be set for Mr. Murdaugh’s motion for a new trial at any time.

Respectfully submitted,


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November 1, 2023
Columbia, South Carolina.

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