

# The Supreme Court of South Carolina

Re: Master-in-Equity for Berkeley County

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## ORDER

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On April 17, 2024, the Honorable Dale E. Van Slambrook, Master-in-Equity for Berkeley County, was elected to the Circuit Court. Upon his taking the oath of office as a Circuit Court Judge for the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit on July 1, 2024, the position of Master-in-Equity for Berkeley County will become vacant until the position can be screened and filled pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 14-11-20 (2017). Now, therefore, pursuant to the provisions of Art. V, § 4, of the South Carolina Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that the Honorable Dale E. Van Slambrook, Circuit Judge for the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, shall have concurrent jurisdiction as a Special Master-in-Equity for Berkeley County to dispose of matters that are pending or scheduled for hearing before the master's court in addition to his duties as Circuit Judge for the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. Further, Judge Van Slambrook may continue to hear matters that may be filed in the master's court. His authority under this Order shall remain in effect until such time as a Master-In-Equity for Berkeley County has been appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the General Assembly and assumes the duties of that office, or until further order of this Court, whichever shall first occur.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Honorable Jennifer B. McCoy, Chief Judge for Administrative Purposes (Common Pleas) for the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, and any subsequently appointed Chief Judge for Administrative Purposes (Common Pleas) for the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, shall appoint special referees upon agreement of the parties where appropriate. Any special referee so appointed must be compensated by the parties involved in the action, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 14-11-60 (2017).

s/Donald W. Beatty

Donald W. Beatty

Chief Justice of South Carolina

Columbia, South Carolina  
June 10, 2024