

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
COUNTY OF HORRY )  
IN THE MATTER OF )  
Mica Acacia Miller (Decedent) )  
) )  
Angelita Salas, )  
) )  
Petitioner, )  
vs. )  
) )  
John-Paul Miller, )  
) )  
Respondent. )

PROBATE COURT  
CASE NO.: 2024ES2601446

ORDER DENYING PETITION  
TO REMOVE PERSONAL  
REPRESENTATIVE

PROBATE COURT  
HORRY COUNTY, S.C.  
2026 SEP 10 P 4:35  
R. ALLEN BEVERLY JR.  
PROBATE JUDGE

This matter came before the Court upon the Petition seeking removal of John-Paul Miller as Personal Representative. After considering the testimony, exhibits, pleadings, arguments of counsel, and applicable law, the Court enters the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Mica Acacia Miller died on April 27, 2024, from a gunshot wound to the head.
2. Sierra Francis was appointed Special Administrator on May 3, 2024, for the limited purposes set forth in the Court's Order.
3. A Family Court action between the Decedent and Respondent was pending at the time of that appointment.
4. Respondent petitioned for appointment as Personal Representative, and Sierra Francis later withdrew her objections pursuant to the parties' settlement agreement.
5. Respondent was appointed Personal Representative by Order dated August 5, 2024.
6. Petitioner filed the Petition to Remove Personal Representative on May 9, 2025.
7. Petitioner testified that Respondent should be removed based primarily upon a federal indictment and allegations of sexual abuse.
8. The evidence established that the family and Special Administrator were aware of those matters before entering into the settlement that resulted in Respondent's appointment.
9. No evidence established that Respondent has been convicted of, or pleaded guilty to, the felonious and intentional killing of Decedent.
10. No evidence established by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent feloniously and intentionally killed Decedent.

*CPR*

11. No evidence established that Respondent mismanaged the Estate, violated any court order, intentionally misrepresented material facts, or failed to perform his fiduciary duties.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

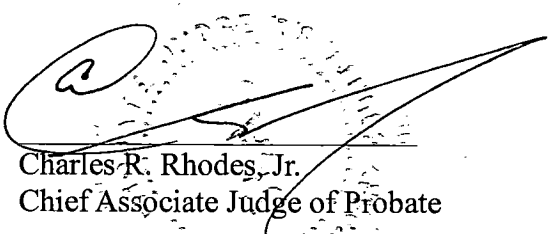
1. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 62-1-302 and venue is proper pursuant to § 62-3-201.
2. S.C. Code Ann. § 62-2-803(e) revokes the priority of a person who feloniously and intentionally kills the decedent to serve as Personal Representative.
3. Under § 62-2-803(f), absent a conviction or guilty plea, the Court may determine by a preponderance of the evidence whether the individual feloniously and intentionally killed the decedent.
4. Petitioner failed to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent feloniously and intentionally killed the Decedent.
5. The federal indictment is merely an accusation and does not establish the truth of the allegations.
6. Petitioner failed to establish any statutory ground for removal under S.C. Code Ann. § 62-3-611.

### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Petition to Remove John-Paul Miller as Personal Representative is DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: September 10, 2026  
Conway, South Carolina

  
Charles R. Rhodes, Jr.  
Chief Associate Judge of Probate

