Order entered August 16, 2016

In The
Court of Appeals
Fifth District of Texas at Dallas

No. 05-15-01427-CR
No. 05-15-01428-CR

REGINALD DONELL RICE, Appellant

V.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, Appellee

On Appeal from the 265th Judicial District Court
Dallas County, Texas
Trial Court Cause Nos. F14-76788-R & F14-76789-R

ORDER

Appellant's brief has not been filed. The Court **ORDERS** the trial court to conduct a hearing to determine why appellant's brief has not been filed. In this regard, the trial court shall make appropriate findings and recommendations and determine whether appellant desires to prosecute the appeal, whether appellant is indigent, or if not indigent, whether retained counsel has abandoned the appeal. *See* TEX. R. APP. P. 38.8(b). If the trial court cannot obtain appellant's presence at the hearing, the trial court shall conduct the hearing in appellant's absence. *See Meza v. State*, 742 S.W.2d 708 (Tex. App.–Corpus Christi 1987, no pet.) (per curiam). If appellant is indigent, the trial court is **ORDERED** to take such measures as may be necessary to assure effective representation, which may include appointment of new counsel.

We **ORDER** the trial court to transmit a record of the proceedings, which shall include written findings and recommendations, to this Court within **THIRTY DAYS** of the date of this order.

This appeal is **ABATED** to allow the trial court to comply with the above order. The appeal shall be reinstated thirty days from the date of this order or when the findings are received, whichever is earlier.

/s/ LANA MYERS
JUSTICE