

Judgments from Small Claims Court

What happens after the judge's decision?

If you have received a judgment in your favor and have not been paid within 30 days from the judge's verdict, you must contact the magistrate's court to request a *Transcript of Judgment*. The original transcript will be mailed to you or you may pick up the transcript in person. Contact the magistrate's office where your case was heard.

Summerville Magistrate's Office
212 Deming Way
Summerville, SC 29483
843-832-0370

St. George Magistrate's Office
5200 East Jim Bilton Blvd
St. George, SC 29477
843-563-0130

The next step is to file this original *Transcript of Judgment* with the Clerk of Court.

Do not write on or alter the transcript in any way.

Instructions:

1. Mail original transcript with a certified check for **\$35** payable to *Dorchester County Clerk of Court* to:

Dorchester County Clerk of Court
5200 East Jim Bilton Blvd
St. George, SC 29477

2. Notify the Clerk of Court's Office at (843) 563-0113 if the judgment *is* satisfied (you receive the money owed to you). You will then need to sign a Satisfaction of Judgment and file it with the Clerk of Court, which does not require a filing fee. If the judgment is *not* satisfied, it will remain on record for 10 years negatively affecting the defendant's credit.

What action can be taken after the judgment is filed with the Clerk of Court in order to collect on the money owed?

When filing the original transcript of judgment, you may wish to also pursue the payment of the judgment. If so, request the Clerk of Court to prepare an Execution of Judgment and enclose an additional certified check for **\$25.00** payable to *Dorchester County Sheriff's Office*. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for executing a judgment whereby certain items may be seized from the defendant and sold at public auction in order to satisfy the debt. **Executing a judgment is no guarantee that you will get the money owed to you.** Please call Peggy Dunn, Sheriff's Office, (843)563-0260 Ext #1, if you need assistance or go to www.DorchesterCountySC.gov for more specific information regarding executions against property.

\$10.00 – payable to Dorchester County Clerk of Court for filing Transcript of Judgment
\$25.00 – payable to Dorchester County Sheriff's Office (*if* enforcing execution)

Both checks mailed to: Dorchester County Clerk of Court, 5200 East Jim Bilton Blvd., St. George, SC 29477