IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

MICHAEL BROWN, §

Defendant Below-

§ No. 630, 2013

Appellant,

§

v. § Court Below—Superior Court

§ of the State of Delaware,

STATE OF DELAWARE, § in and for New Castle County

§ Cr. ID 0412008486

Plaintiff Below- § Appellee. §

Submitted: November 22, 2013 Decided: December 4, 2013

Before **HOLLAND**, **BERGER**, and **JACOBS**, Justices.

ORDER

This 4th day of December 2013, it appears to the Court that:

- (1) On November 14, 2013, the Court received appellant's notice of appeal from a Superior Court order, dated July 18, 2013, which denied appellant's motion for postconviction relief. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 6, a timely notice of appeal should have been filed on or before August 19, 2013.
- (2) The Senior Court Clerk issued a notice pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 29(b) directing appellant to show cause why the appeal should not be dismissed as untimely filed.¹ Appellant filed a response to the notice to show

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¹Del. Supr. Ct. R. 6(a)(iii).

cause on November 22, 2013. He asserts that he timely mailed his notice of appeal on August 6, 2013. He attaches a copy of a prison mail log reflecting his outgoing mail. Appellant contends that his untimely filing was the result of court-related

personnel and therefore must be excused.

(3) We disagree. Time is a jurisdictional requirement.² A notice of

appeal must be received by the Office of the Clerk of this Court within the

applicable time period in order to be effective.³ An appellant's pro se status does

not excuse a failure to comply strictly with the jurisdictional requirements of

Supreme Court Rule 6.4 The appellant's mail log and documentation in this case

reflects that he sent mail to the Department of Justice on August 6, 2013. The

Department of Justice is *not* the Office of the Clerk of this Court. The appellant's

untimely filing, therefore, is attributable to his own error and is not the result of

court-related personnel.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule

29(b), that the within appeal is DISMISSED.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Carolyn Berger_ Justice

²Carr v. State, 554 A.2d 778, 779 (Del.), cert. denied, 493 U.S. 829 (1989).

³Del. Supr. Ct. R. 10(a).

⁴Smith v. State, 47 A.3d 481, 486-87 (Del. 2012).

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