

RECEIVED

Oct 09 2023

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

---

Appeal from Dorchester County  
Honorable Maite Murphy, Circuit Court Judge  
Appellate Case No. 2022-000412

---

THE STATE,

Respondent,

vs.

ANTHONY BERNARD MORRIS,

Appellant.

---

**MOTION FOR THIRD EXTENSION OF TIME WITHIN WHICH  
TO SERVE AND FILE INITIAL BRIEF OF RESPONDENT  
AND DESIGNATION OF MATTER**

---

Respondent (“the State”), through its undersigned counsel, would respectfully show unto the Court as follows:

**I.**

The Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter are due to be served and filed on October 9, 2023.

**II.**

Pursuant to RE: Extension Requests in Criminal Direct Appeals and Post-Conviction Relief Certiorari Proceedings: Order of the South Carolina Supreme Court dated March 18, 2009, the State moves for a **third** extension in the above-referenced criminal appeal and asks for an additional thirty days to complete the brief in this case. In the past few weeks, the undersigned counsel has participated in oral argument at the Supreme Court in **State v. Randy**

Collins; has participated in oral argument at the Court of Appeals in State v. Ricky Manigo Dawson; has filed a Petition for Writ of Certiorari and Appendix in the Supreme Court in In the Matter of Lauren Martel, Esquire; filed an Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in the Court of Appeals in State v. George Holmes and State v. Osman Uvaldo Jimenez Benitez; and has filed a Final Brief of Respondent in the Court of Appeals in State v. Kendrick Tremain Blackwell and State v. Ronald Lyons. Along with that and other responsibilities—including supervisory and administrative ones—in the office, the undersigned counsel has also participated in mandatory training related to leadership skills, has prepared for and presented at an internal annual presentation on the status of the unit, has assisted in the office’s completion of the annual accountability report, and has prepared for and presented at the 2023 South Carolina Solicitors’ Annual Conference.

### III.

The undersigned counsel submits this extension request is supported by extraordinary circumstances and is not intended for purposes of delay. The Brief in the above-referenced case involves two important issues on appeal related to the propriety of the sentence imposed. The undersigned counsel is currently working on the Brief in this case and intends to have it finished in a timely manner. However, the undersigned counsel has not yet been able to finish the Brief due to a heavy workload, challenges that have resulted from staffing issues that continue to be experienced by the undersigned counsel’s office, and other responsibilities necessitated by William M. Blich, Jr.’s departure from the office following his acceptance of the position of Disciplinary Counsel for the State of South Carolina. Accordingly, in order to ensure the Brief is properly researched and prepared, I would therefore request an additional extension of time within which to serve and file the Brief.

**WHEREFORE**, Respondent prays that the Court extend the deadline for the service and filing of the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in this case for thirty days from the date such relief is granted; hold the matter in abeyance pending a ruling on Respondent's motion; and grant such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

ALAN WILSON  
Attorney General

MARK R. FARTHING  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

By: 

Mark R. Farthing  
S.C. Bar Number 76901

I have reviewed and approved this extension request.

By: 

Donald J. Zelenka  
Deputy Attorney General

October 9, 2023

**RECEIVED**

**Oct 09 2023**

**SC Court of Appeals**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

---

Appeal from Dorchester County  
Honorable Maite Murphy, Circuit Court Judge  
Appellate Case No. 2022-000412

---

THE STATE,

Respondent,

vs.

ANTHONY BERNARD MORRIS,

Appellant.

---

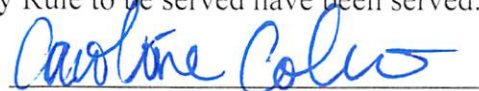
**PROOF OF SERVICE**

---

I, Caroline Collins, certify I have served the within Motion for Third Extension of Time Within Which to Serve and File Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter on Appellant by sending an electronic copy via email to the address listed in AIS for the following individual:

Reagan Singletary, Esquire  
The Singletary Group, LLC  
685 Highway 15 South  
St. George, South Carolina 29377

I further certify all parties required by Rule to be served have been served.  
This 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.



---

CAROLINE COLLINS  
Administrative Coordinator  
Office of the Attorney General