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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

March 13, 2024

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk, Supreme Court of South Carolina
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: **James Dejarnette Robertson v. State of South Carolina**
Appellate Case No: 2023-000505, *Capital PCR*

Dear Ms. Howard:

The Return to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the referenced case is due to be served and filed today, March 13, 2024. Counsel has attempted to complete the return. Counsel has completed review of the arguments and relevant portions of the 14-volume appendix, and drafted a substantial part of the return, but the return is not yet complete. Notably, counsel is working to condense the arguments to reduce the number of pages that may exceed the current limits for a return. Cognizant of previous requests, and considering the work already completed, counsel requests only a short, 7-day extension, up to and including March 20, 2024.

Counsel regrets having to make this additional request, but the request is made from necessity and not mere delay. Counsel has an extremely high caseload which includes capital cases presently being prepared for hearing; federal habeas cases; non-capital murder direct appeals which have a greater number of extension and which counsel is attempting to also complete; along with returns, orders, briefs and just recently an oral argument in non-capital PCR matters. Further, counsel has been working on an extraordinary writ for a time sensitive matter while also attempting to complete this return. Even so, counsel will move other matters in the calendar to ensure that the return can and will be completed within the next 7 days.


Respondent is advised that opposing counsel has no objection to the extension.

Sincerely,

Melody J. Brown
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

[Signature in Support: Robertson v. State – Capital PCR Return Extension Request]

In compliance with *In Re: Extensions in Criminal and Post-Conviction Relief Cases*,
(S.C. Sup. Ct. order dated March 18, 2009) (Davis Adv. Sh. No. 13 at 1).



W. JEFFREY YOUNG
Chief Deputy Attorney General

cc: William H. Ehliens, II, Esq. (via email only)