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May 13 2024

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

Appeal from Charleston County
The Honorable Bentley Price, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

Respondent,

v.

MAURICE TRIMAIN SINGLETON,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2023-000553

**MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE INITIAL BRIEF
OF RESPONDENT AND DESIGNATION OF MATTER**

The undersigned counsel would respectfully request an extension in which to serve and file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in the above-referenced case. Undersigned counsel requests an additional 30 days to complete the brief. Opposing counsel has graciously consented to all extensions through May 31, 2024. This is the sixth request for an extension. The last request was limited to 10 days; however, counsel was unable to complete the work within the time requested due to other matters arising in the interim. Further, counsel is currently scheduled to present oral argument in our Supreme Court on May 23rd and has a capital case reply due on May 25th. Consequently, while counsel intends to complete the brief, out of an abundance of caution, counsel is requesting an additional 30 days to avoid additional requests. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following:

Respondent's Initial Brief and Designation of Matter are due today, May 13, 2024, according to this Court's Order dated May 9, 2024, granting Respondent's fifth extension request. Undersigned counsel for Respondent has had a number of state and federal matters to attend to that have hampered progress on the brief. Specifically, counsel has, in the last thirty days: prepared and filed documents regarding a new trial motion (*Charles Wakefield*, supplemental reply (SC Supreme Court), *April 15, 2024*); response to motions to preserve files and a motion for hearing prior to disclosure after assertion of privilege and/or exemption (circuit court), *April 16, 2024*); completed and filed a response withholding consent to file amicus in a capital federal habeas action appeal in the Fourth Circuit (*Stephen Corey Bryant*, *April 15, 2024*); completed and filed the brief of respondent in a non-capital post-conviction action appeal (*Oshaun Robinson*, *April 18, 2024*); prepared and filed a response in opposition to motion for leave to file memorandum in a capital federal habeas corpus action (*Andres Torres*, *April 22, 2024*); edited, completed and filed a brief of respondent in another state post-conviction relief appeal (*Jason Black*, *April 22, 2024*); completed and filed the return in a capital state post-conviction relief action, and attended a hearing the following day in Sumter, South Carolina, to address appointment of counsel (*Timoth Ray Jones*, *April 25 and 26, 2024*); completed and filed a reply to response in opposition to motion for summary judgment in a non-capital federal habeas corpus action (*Brandon Adams*, *April 29, 2024*); prepared and submitted for filing a return and motion to dismiss and a proposed conditional order in a non-capital state post-conviction relief action (*John Mills*, *April 29, 2024*); worked to complete and send out the roster for the May 13-17, 2024, term of court to hear non-capital post-conviction relief actions in Greenville, South Carolina; and prepared for and presented argument to this Court on *Tuesday, May 7, 2024*, in a murder direct appeal (*Nathaniel Rowland*). Further, counsel has aided in the preparation of cases for the May PCR term, and is completing a reply

regarding discovery in one of the cases listed above (*Wakefield*). Notably, Respondent has reviewed the research and records in this matter and has worked on a draft of the initial brief. Counsel miscalculated the time necessary to complete the brief and only requested 10 days in the last extension request. Counsel's involvement in the matters as listed above prevented counsel from timely completing the brief for filing within the time last granted. Consequently, this request is made from necessity and not for the purpose of simple delay.

WHEREFORE, counsel respectfully requests a 30 day extension of time to serve and file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter.


Respectfully Submitted,

ALAN WILSON
Attorney General

DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

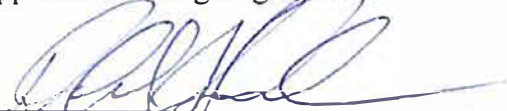
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By: 
MELODY J. BROWN
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

May 13, 2024.

I support the finding of good cause.

By: 
DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

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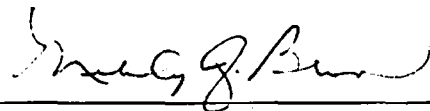
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PROOF OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that as per the March 20, 2020 Order of the Chief Justice, the Motion for Extension Time, and Certificate of Service has been forwarded to Appellant's counsel, Kathrine H. Hudgins, Esquire via email today, May 13, 2024, to KHudgins@sccid.sc.gov, and to her assistant Chris Stock, at Cstock@sccid.sc.gov.

I further certify that all parties required by Rule to be served have been served.

This 13th day of May, 2024.



Melody J. Brown
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General