

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

Appeal from Bamberg County
Honorable Brooks P. Goldsmith, Circuit Court Judge
Appellate Case No. 2023-000634

THE STATE,

Respondent,

vs.

CHRISTOPHER ADAM COMER,

Appellant.

**MOTION FOR FOURTH 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 June 19, 2024.

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 **fourth** 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 before the Supreme Court in State v. Jason

Edwin Stoots; has participated in oral argument before the Court of Appeals in State v. Ricky Benard Brown and Marcus Wright v. State; has prepared for and assisted with a criminal contempt trial conducted in the South Carolina Supreme Court; has filed a Brief of Petitioner in the Supreme Court in In the Matter of Lauren Martel, Esq.; has filed a Brief of Respondent in the Supreme Court in State v. Terrell Denard Knightner; and has submitted an Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in the Court of Appeals in State v. Anthony Bernard Morris. Along with that, the undersigned counsel has attended to other responsibilities—including supervisory and administrative ones—in the office and has presented at a continuing legal education seminar for solicitors throughout the state at the request of the South Carolina Commission on Prosecution Coordination.

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 an important issue regarding the court's denial of the defense's motion for mistrial based on a matter related to a juror. 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, other significant challenges that have resulted from staffing issues that continue to be experienced by the undersigned counsel's office, and other unexpected issues that arose requiring the undersigned counsel's attention. 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.

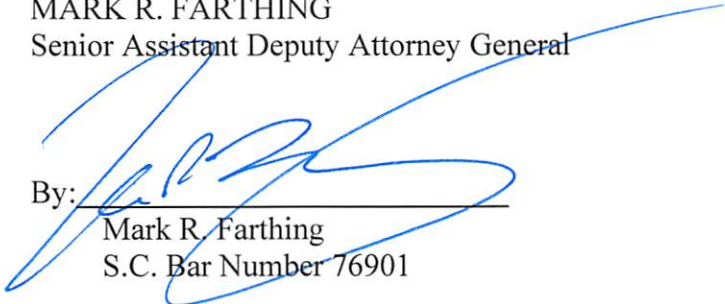
WHEREFORE, Respondent prays that the Court extend the deadline for the service and filing of the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in this case for thirty days

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.

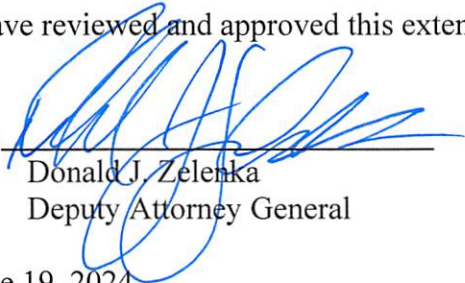
Respectfully submitted,

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

June 19, 2024

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Jun 19 2024

SC Court of Appeals

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I, Caroline Collins, certify I have served the within Motion for the Fourth 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:

Sarah Elizabeth Shipe, Esquire
S.C. Commission on Indigent Defense
1330 Lady Street, Suite 401
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

I further certify all parties required by Rule to be served have been served.
This 19th day of June, 2024.



CAROLINE COLLINS
Administrative Support Manager
Office of the Attorney General