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Oct 03 2024

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

Appeal from Greenville County
The Honorable Perry H. Gravely, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

Respondent,

v.

RAYMOND MARTINEZ, JR.,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2023-001201

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

Undersigned counsel would respectfully request a thirty (30) day extension in which to serve and file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in the above-referenced case. Opposing counsel has graciously consented to all extension requests through October 31, 2024. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following:

Respondent's Initial Brief and Designation of matter are due today, October 3, 2024, according to this Court's Order dated September 10, 2024, granting Respondent's fourth extension request. The undersigned counsel for Respondent, however, has had a number of state and federal matters to attend since September 10, 2024, most notably in capital cases. In particular, counsel has in the last thirty days: prepared and filed an expedited response in opposition to motion for stay of execution (*Freddie Owens, September 5, 2024*)¹; prepared and filed a return and

¹ The execution was scheduled for September 20, 2024, and ultimately did take place on that day.

memorandum in support of motion for summary judgment in a federal habeas corpus action (*Derek Maner, September 9, 2024*); prepared and filed an expedited response in opposition to second motion to stay the execution and a return to the petition for writ of habeas corpus in the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court (*Freddie Owens, September 11, 2024*); prepared and filed status reports in capital cases stayed in the federal district court (*Anthony Woods, September 13, 2023; Bayan Aleskey and James Roberts, September 16, 2024*); prepared and filed a return with memorandum of law in support of motion or summary judgment, and also filed a motion to strike materials outside the state court records and any arguments and references to same in petitioner's filings, in a capital federal habeas corpus action (*Andres Torres, September 18, 2024*); prepared and filed a return to motion for reconsideration (second motion for stay of execution) (*Freddie Owens, September 19, 2024*); prepared and filed a response opposing authorization for successive 28 U.S.C. § 2254 action, and response in opposition for motion to stay execution, both in the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and expedited for response given the filings were made on the day of the scheduled execution (*Freddie Owens, September 20, 2024*); prepared and filed a response in opposition to motion stay proceedings in a non-capital federal habeas action and a reply to the petitioner's response in opposition to the respondent's motion for summary judgment (*Mark Lorenzo Blake, September 25, 2024*); prepared and filed an amended return in a capital federal habeas corpus action (*Andres Torres, September 26, 2024*); completed and filed a brief of petitioner in post-conviction relief appeal (*Angelo Taylor, September 30, 2024*); prepared and filed a status report in a federal habeas corpus action (*Carnie Norris, October 1, 2024*); completed and filed a final brief of respondent in a non-capital murder direct appeal (*Timothy F. Green, October 1, 2024*); prepared and filed an updated status report in federal habeas actions showing petition for writ of certiorari in state PCR appeal was denied (*Carnie Norris, October 3, 2024*); and, aided in

the drafting and preparation of a motion to reconsider denial of motion to supplement the record in a non-capital murder direct appeal (*Anthony Nicholas Argoe, October 3, 2024*). Further, counsel is currently working on a brief in opposition to a petition for writ of certiorari filed in the Supreme Court of the United States by a death-sentenced inmate (*Richard Bernard Moore*),² and also aiding in final preparations for a term of post-conviction relief hearing in Greenville County (*October 7-10, 2024*).

Notably, counsel has been reviewing the transcript in this case and has researched in preparation for drafting the brief, along with reviewing and researching to prepare the response to the co-defendant's brief (*Robert Lee Belcher, Appellate Case No. 2023-001378*). However, due to counsel's involvement in the above listed matters, and other matters pending in state and federal court not completed and listed, and also considering counsel's administrative responsibilities as supervisor for murder appeals, federal habeas corpus actions and capital litigation, counsel has been unable to timely complete the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter.

WHEREFORE, counsel respectfully requests a thirty (30) day extension of time to serve and file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter. This request is made in good faith, and not for the purposes of delay.

Respectfully Submitted,


ALAN WILSON
Attorney General

DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

MELODY J. BROWN
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

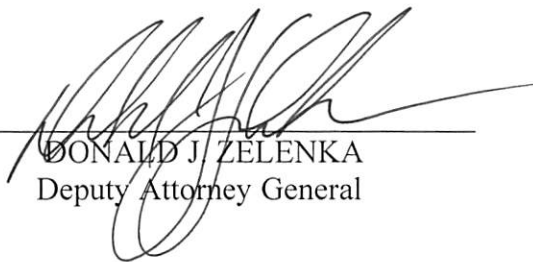
² According to the Supreme Court of South Carolina's Amended Order of August 30, 2024, Moore is next to have an execution notice to be issued.

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By: 
MELODY J. BROWN
S.C. Bar No: 14244
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

October 3, 2024

I support the finding of good cause.

By: 
DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

I, too, support the find of good cause.

By: 
W. JEFFREY YOUNG
Chief Deputy Attorney General

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Appellate Case No. 2023-001201

PROOF OF SERVICE

I as an employee of the Respondent, hereby certify that as per the March 20, 2020 Order of the Chief Justice, the Motion for Extension Time, and Proof of Service has been forwarded to Appellant's counsel, Robert M. Dudek, Esquire, via email today, October 3, 2024 to RDudek@sccid.sc.gov and to his assistant at KWarren@sccid.sc.gov.

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

This is the 3rd day of October 2024.

s/ Brandy Rankin

Legal Assistant to Melody J. Brown
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

Brandy Rankin

From: Brandy Rankin
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2024 3:02 PM
To: Dudek, Robert
Cc: Warren, Kaylynn; Melody Brown; Angela Brown
Subject: The State v. Raymond Martinez, Jr. - Appellate Case 2023-001201 - 5th Extension to file Initial Brief of Respondent
Attachments: Martinez 5th Ext-Final approved by Melody- signed.pdf

Dear Mr. Dudek,

Please find attached the Respondent's Fifth Extension to file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter, along with the Proof of Service. These documents will be filed with the South Carolina Court of Appeals today, October 3, 2024, along with a copy of this email. Have a great day!

Sincerely,
Brandy Rankin

Brandy Rankin, Legal Assistant
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803-734-6305



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