

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Supreme Court

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Oct 07 2024

APPEAL FROM CHEROKEE COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas

S.C. SUPREME COURT

J. Mark Hayes, II, Circuit Court Judge

Appellate Case No. 2024-000128
Case No. 2017-CP-11-00801

Thomas Anthony Styla,

Respondent-Petitioner,

v.

State of South Carolina,

Petitioner-Respondent.

**RESPONDENT-PETITIONER'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION TO FILE
REPLY TO RETURN TO PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

COMES NOW, Jack B. Swerling, attorney for the Respondent-Petitioner, Thomas Anthony Styla, requesting an extension to file the Respondent-Petitioner's reply to the return filed by the State, as Petitioner-Respondent, to the petition for writ of certiorari filed by the Respondent-Petitioner. Counsel previously requested a 10-day extension, and the Court granted the extension to October 7, 2024.

Counsel respectfully requests an additional extension of ten days to file the Respondent-Petitioner's reply, to October 17, 2024.

Over the past weeks, counsel has been under a heavy court schedule, including but not limited to a murder trial in Greenwood County that began Monday, September 23; continued through Thursday, September 26, when the trial was delayed due to Hurricane Helene's arrival;

resumed Wednesday, October 2; and concluded Saturday, October 5. Counsel began another trial in Kershaw County General Sessions Court today that is expected to last through Friday, October 11. Due to counsel's heavy trial schedule, the disruption caused by the hurricane, and the continuation throughout last week of the Greenwood County trial, counsel will be unable to meet today's deadline for Respondent-Petitioner's reply. These circumstances constitute good cause for the grant of a second extension, and the requirement of the Court's order of March 18, 2009, regarding extensions in PCR proceedings is met.

This extension request is made in good faith and not for the purpose of delay, but for good cause due to counsel's current trial schedule and the disruption caused by the hurricane.

WHEREFORE, for good cause shown, counsel respectfully requests a 10-day extension of time to serve and file the Respondent-Petitioner's reply to the State's return to the Respondent-Petitioner's petition for writ of certiorari, to October 17, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack B. Swerling", is written over a horizontal line.

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