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Nov 14 2024

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

Appeal from Anderson County
The Honorable R. Scott Sprouse, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

Respondent,

v.

ADAM DON LAWLESS,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2023-000636

**MOTION FOR SIXTH 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 move for an extension of time in which to file the initial brief and designation of matter in the captioned direct appeal. In support of this motion, Respondent would respectfully show the Court:

1. The brief and designation are due to be served and filed today, November 12, 2024, pursuant to five previous extensions granted by the Court. Respondent moves for a **sixth** extension in the above-referenced criminal appeal and asks for a final **fifteen days** to complete the brief in this case. Counsel submits this extension request is supported by good cause and is not intended for purposes of simple delay for the following reasons:

2. Counsel is presently unable to complete work on this particular brief due to other obligations over the past thirty days, most notably in capital cases: prepared for a status conference, and subsequently drafted and submitted a memorandum of law for submission to the court in a capital PCR action (*Jerry Buck Inman, October 17 and 21, 2024*); prepared for and presented argument in a motion hearing in a new trial motion in the Greenville County Courthouse (*Charles*

Wakefield, October 18, 2024); prepared and filed a brief in opposition to a petition for writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court of the United States (*Richard Bernard Moore, October 22, 2024*); prepared and filed a status report in a non-capital federal habeas corpus case stayed for exhaustion of state court remedies (*Henry Dukes, October 25, 2024*); traveled to Richmond, Virginia, for argument in the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in a capital case on appeal from denial of federal habeas corpus relief (*Stephen Corey Bryant, October 27-29, 2024*); prepared and filed in the Supreme Court of the United States a response opposing an application for stay of execution (*Richard Bernard Moore, October 29, 2024*); aided in the drafting of a proposed order of dismissal in a non-capital PCR action and shared a copy of same with opposing counsel (*Clyde Davis, October 31, 2024*); completed final notices and matters in regard to the Moore execution (*Richard Bernard Moore, November 1, 2024*); and, completed with co-counsel, a post-hearing brief in a capital PCR case (*Ricky Blackwell, November 5, 2024*).

3. Due to counsel's involvement in the above listed matters, and other matters pending in state and federal court not so listed, and also considering counsel's administrative responsibilities as supervisor for murder appeals, federal habeas corpus actions, capital litigation, and Thirteenth Circuit PCR actions and appeals, counsel has been unable to timely review the matter for completion of the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter.

4. Counsel has, however, associated an attorney to work on the research and drafting in this matter. Counsel has consulted on this matter with the associated attorney. Counsel asserts that substantial progress has been made, and, as such, requests only an additional fifteen days in which to complete the brief for filing.

5. Opposing counsel has graciously consented to all extension requests through November 30, 2024.

WHEREFORE, based on the foregoing, counsel respectfully requests an extension of time to serve and file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in this case for fifteen days from the date such relief is granted and to hold the matter in abeyance pending a ruling on Respondent's motion.

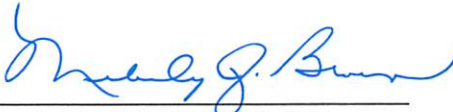
Respectfully submitted,

ALAN WILSON
Attorney General

DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

MELODY J. BROWN
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

Post Office Box 11549
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(803) 734-6305


By: 

MELODY J. BROWN
S.C. Bar Number 14244

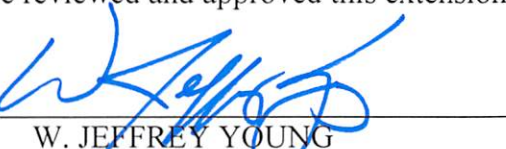
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

November 12, 2024

I have reviewed and approved this extension request.

BY: 
DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

I have reviewed and approved this extension request.

BY: 
W. JEFFREY YOUNG
Chief Deputy Attorney General

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I, Brandy Rankin, certify I have served Sixth 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 below:

David Alexander, Esquire
S.C. Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
P.O. Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211

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

This is the 12th day of November 2024.



Brandy Rankin
Legal Assistant
Office of the Attorney General