

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

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Appeal from Florence County  
Honorable H. Steven DeBerry, IV, Circuit Court Judge

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THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

WILLIE JAMES SMITH,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2024-000879

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

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The undersigned counsel respectfully requests a thirty day extension in which to file the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the above-referenced case. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following extraordinary circumstances:


1. The initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in this case are due to be served and filed today.
2. Counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Andre Junior Covington with the Court of Appeals on February 13, 2025. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Brandon Wilson v. The State with the Supreme Court on February 11, 2025. Counsel had an oral argument in the case of Jason Allen Larson v. The State before the Court of Appeals on February 4, 2025. Counsel

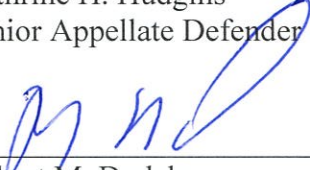
filed the Anders brief of appellant, designation of matter and record on appeal in the case of The State v. Earl Valentine with the Court of Appeals on February 3, 2025. Counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Tyshawn Cornelius Robinson with the Court of Appeals on January 15, 2025. Counsel filed the initial reply brief of appellant on appeal in the case of The State v. Don Brown with the Court of Appeals on January 13, 2025. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Dontarious Wright v. The State with the Supreme Court on January 13, 2025. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari to the Court of Appeals and accompanying appendix in the case of The State v. Dennis Cumbee with the Supreme Court on December 23, 2024. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Randy Chestnut v. The State with the Supreme Court on December 20, 2024.

3. Opposing counsel, the Attorney General's Office, has graciously consented to this extension request by way of the thirty day general consent granted by Deputy Attorney General Donald J. Zelenka for all Appellate Defense extensions through February 28, 2025. That emailed general consent was dated January 31, 2025.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned counsel would respectfully request a thirty day extension. Counsel respectfully requests that the time limits for filing the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter be held in abeyance pending a ruling on this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kathrine H. Hudgins  
Senior Appellate Defender

  
Robert M. Dudek  
Chief Appellate Defender

This 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.

**RECEIVED**

**Feb 26 2025**

**SC Court of Appeals**

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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Pursuant to Rule 262(a)(3) and Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR, the undersigned hereby certifies a true copy of the motion for extension of time to file initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the above-referenced case has been served upon Melody J. Brown, Esquire, at the primary e-mail address listed in the Attorney Information System (AIS), this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2025.

  
Kathrine H. Hudgins  
Senior Appellate Defender

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

**From:** [Stock, Chris](#)  
**To:** [SC - BROWN MELODY; Angela Brown](#)  
**Cc:** [Hudgins, Kathrine](#)  
**Subject:** 2024-000879 - Willie James Smith - 3rd Extension for Brief and Designation  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 26, 2025 11:50:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [2024-000879 - Willie James Smith - 3rd Extension for Brief and Designation.pdf](#)

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Ms. Brown,

Please find attached for service the 3<sup>rd</sup> Extension Request for the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter for Willie James Smith's appeal which will be filed with the Court of Appeals today.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you,

**Chris Stock**  
Administrative Coordinator  
Commission on Indigent Defense  
Appellate Division  
(803) 734-1330