

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Court of Appeals

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Appeal from Greenville County  
The Honorable Alex Kinlaw, Circuit Court Judge

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THE STATE,

Respondent,

v.

STEVE LESTER,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2023-001900

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

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The 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 March 31, 2025. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following:

1. Counsel prepared and submitted the Return and Motion to Dismiss and the Conditional Order of Dismissal for consideration on February 6, 2025, in the Post Conviction Relief action of Brandon Barksdale v. The State, Case No. 2023-CP-23-5148;

2. Respondent prepared and presented Oral Argument on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 @ 11:20 am in the matter of Oshaun Robinson v. State of South Carolina, , Appellate Case No. 2020-001361, a Post Conviction Relief Appeal matter before the South Carolina Court of Appeals;

3. Counsel prepared and filed, with permission from opposing counsel, the Motion to File an Amended Designation of Matter and Amended Record on Appeal on February 12, 2025 in the matter of The State v. Fanotti Nacier Neal, Appellate Case No. 2023-001791, an appeal pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;
4. Counsel prepared and filed the Return in Opposition for Bond on February 18, 2025, in the matter of Jerald Denton Gaskins v. State of South Carolina, Appellate Case No. 2019-000907, a Post Conviction Relief Appeal pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;
5. Counsel prepared and filed the Final Brief of Respondent on February 19, 2025 in the matter of The State v. Adam Don Lawless, Appellate Case No. 2023-000636, a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;
6. Counsel prepared and filed the Petition for Rehearing on February 20, 2025, in the matter of Jerald Denton Gaskins v. State of South Carolina, Appellate Case No. 2019-000907, a Post Conviction Relief Appeal pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;
7. Counsel prepared for and participated in the Post Conviction Relief evidentiary hearing in Greenville, South Carolina on February 24, 2025, in the matter of Vladimir Kurnyavka v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2025-CP-39-0134;
8. Counsel arranged and prepared the Post Conviction Relief roster on February 24, 2025, the roster for the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit for the week of February 24, 2025;
9. Counsel prepared for and participated in the Post Conviction Relief action in Greenville, South Carolina on February 25, 2025, in the matter of Darrell Tabron v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2024-CP-23-0680;

10. Counsel prepared for and participated in the Post Conviction Relief evidentiary hearing in Greenville, South Carolina on February 26 2025, in the matter of Robert Smith, Jr. v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2019-CP-23-4401;

11. Counsel prepared and submitted the Return in the Post Conviction Relief Action on February 26, 2025, in the matter of Timiya Massey v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2022-CP-23-2305;

12. Counsel prepared and participated in the Post Conviction Relief action on February 26, 2025, in the matter of Latravic Bigby v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2022-CP-23-2335;

13. Counsel prepared and participated in the Post Conviction Relief action on February 26, 2025, in the matter of Dean Holcomb v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2022-CP-23-1464;

14. Counsel prepared and participated in the Post Conviction Relief action on February 27, 2025, in the matter of Jahru Smith v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2023-CP-23-0273;

15. Counsel prepared and participated in the Post Conviction Relief evidentiary hearing in Greenville, South Carolina on February 27, 2025, in the matter of Aundra Hunter v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2021-CP-23-2426;

16. Counsel prepared and participated in the Post Conviction Relief action on February 28, 2025, in the matter of Dale Mathis v. The State of South Carolina, Case No. 2022-CP-23-1221;

17. Counsel prepared and filed the Final Brief of Respondent on March 3, 2025 in the matter of The State v. Morgan Dale Carr, Appellate Case No. 2023-00733, a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;

18. Counsel prepared and filed the Final Brief of Respondent on March 5, 2025 in the matter of The State v. Benjamin Walter Dubois, III, Appellate Case No. 2023-001307, a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals.

Due to counsel's involvement in these and other matters pending in court, 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  
S.C. Bar No: 14244

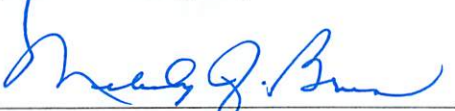
Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
(803) 734-6305

By: s/Kaylee C. Kemp  
Kaylee C. Kemp  
Assistant Attorney General  
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

March 7, 2025

**[signature page continues next page]**

I support the finding of good cause.

By: 

MELODY J. BROWN  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

**RECEIVED**

**Mar 07 2025**

**SC Court of Appeals**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Court of Appeals

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Appeal from Greenville County  
The Honorable Alex Kinlaw, Circuit Court Judge

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THE STATE,

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v.

STEVE LESTER,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2023-001900

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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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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 have been forwarded to Appellant's counsel, Sarah E. Shipe, Esquire, via email today, March 7, 2025 to [Sshipe@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:Sshipe@sccid.sc.gov) and to her assistant, Kaylnn Warren at [Kwarren@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:Kwarren@sccid.sc.gov).

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

This is the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025.

s/Brandy Rankin  
Legal Assistant to Kaylee C. Kemp  
Assistant Attorney General

## Brandy Rankin

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**From:** Brandy Rankin  
**Sent:** Friday, March 7, 2025 9:45 AM  
**To:** Shipe, Sarah  
**Cc:** Warren, Kaylynn; Kaylee Kemp  
**Subject:** The State v. Steve Lester - Appellate Case No. 2023-001900 - Third Motion for Extension to file Initial Brief of Respondent & Designation of Matter  
**Attachments:** Third Motion for Extension to File Initial Brief of Respondent & Designation of Matter - LESTER.pdf

Dear Ms. Shipe,

Please find attached the Respondent's Third Motion for Extension to file the Initial Brief & Designation of Matter re the above-captioned case. This document will be filed today, March 7, 2025, with the South Carolina Court of Appeals along with a copy of this email. Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

*Brandy Rankin*

Brandy Rankin, Legal Assistant to Kaylee C. Kemp  
Office of the Attorney General  
Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
803-734-6305



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