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Apr 03 2025

SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM OCONEE COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas
R. Lawton McIntosh, Circuit Judge

Appellate Case No. 2024-000739
Common Pleas Case No. 2022-CP-37-00182

Dorothy Pierce,..... Appellant,

v.

Jerry Edwards, Edwards Group Holdings, Inc., Edwards Printing, Richard Hunt McDuff, MJM Law LLC, Riley Morningstar, the Journal Newspaper, Hal Welch,..... Respondents,

JOURNAL RESPONDENTS’ MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO SERVE AND FILE
INITIAL BRIEF AND DESIGNATION OF MATTER

Respondents Jerry Edwards, Edwards Group Holdings, Inc., Edwards Printing, Riley Morningstar, the Journal Newspaper, and Hal Welch (collectively “Journal Respondents”) move pursuant to Rule 263(b), SCACR, for a 21-day extension of the time in which to serve and file their initial brief and designation of matter through and including April 24, 2025. There is good cause for granting this motion. The grounds for which are as follows:

1. Ms. Pierce filed her initial appellants’ brief and designation of matter on February 5, 2025. Journal Respondent’s initial brief and designation of matter was due on March 7, 2025.

2. This appeal did not arise from any ruling that involved the Journal Respondents, so the Journal Respondents did not believe they were made a respondent in this appeal or that they were required to file any brief;
3. On or around April 1, 2025 the attorneys for the Journal Respondents received a letter by mail from this Court dated March 24, 2025 stating that Journal Respondents had ten days to file an initial brief and designation of matter, along with a motion requesting permission to serve and file the respondents' initial brief and designation of matter outside of the filing deadlines set by Rule 208 and 209, SCACR;
4. Journal Respondents seek a 21-day extension to prepare and file an initial brief and designation of matter;
5. This is the first request for extension sought by Journal Respondents;
6. Journal Respondents believe there is good cause to grant the requested extension;
7. Counsel for Journal Respondents has served this document on opposing counsel by email to registered AIS email address on the date given below and by U.S. Mail to the pro se appellant.

WHEREFORE Journal Respondents pray for an order extending the time in which to serve and file their initial brief and designation of matter to be included in the record on appeal by 21 days, to April 24, 2025.

FREEMAN MATHIS & GARY

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Newspaper*

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing JOURNAL RESPONDENTS' MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO SERVE AND FILE RESPONSE BRIEF has been served via email to the following counsel of record:

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I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing JOURNAL RESPONDENTS' MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO SERVE AND FILE RESPONSE BRIEF has been served via email and U.S. Mail to pro se appellant:

Dorothy Pierce
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FREEMAN MATHIS & GARY

/s/ W. Shawn Bingham

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