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Aug 11 2025

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

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Appeal from Beaufort County  
Honorable Kristi F. Curtis, Circuit Court Judge

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THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

FRANCISCO CORTES,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2024-002210

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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. Levy Ernest Dunn with the Court of Appeals on August 6, 2025. Counsel filed the initial reply brief of appellant in the case of The State v. Melanie McClain with the Court of Appeals on July 29, 2025. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Willie Ruth Byrd v. The State with the Supreme Court on July 18, 2025.

Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Maurio D. Rivers v. The State with the Supreme Court on July 18, 2025. Counsel filed the brief of respondent in the case of Joseph Todd Rowland v. The State with the Court of Appeals on June 25, 2025. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Donald Martin, III v. The State with the Supreme Court on June 19, 2025. Counsel filed the reply to return to petition for writ of certiorari to the Court of Appeals in the case of Willie M. Williams v. The State with the Supreme Court on June 17, 2025. Counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Jeffrey Michael George with the Court of Appeals on May 30, 2025. Counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Stephen J. Green with the Court of Appeals on May 22, 2025.

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 August 31, 2025. That emailed general consent was dated July 29, 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

  
Wanda H. Carter  
Interim Chief Appellate Defender

This 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

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THE STATE,

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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 Mark R. Farthing, Esquire, at the primary e-mail address listed in the Attorney Information System (AIS), this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025.

  
Kathrine H. Hudgins  
Senior Appellate Defender

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT