

**RECEIVED**

**Aug 29 2025**

**SC Court of Appeals**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Court of Appeals

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Appeal from Richland County  
The Honorable Daniel Coble, Circuit Court Judge

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THE STATE,

Respondent,

v.

TROY CHRISTOPHER STEVENSON, JR.,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2024-000890

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**MOTION FOR THIRD 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 was contacted for consent but at this time there has been no response. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following:

Respondent's Initial Brief and Designation of Matter is due today, Friday, August 29, 2025, as per this Court's Order granting Respondent's second extension request. The undersigned attorney for the Respondent has had a number of state and federal matters to attend to since July 2025 when the Court granted Respondent's third extension. Specifically:

1. Counsel assisted and attended the capital post-conviction relief merits hearing/trial in the Lexington County matter of Norman Starnes v. State of South Carolina, C/A 2011-CP-32-830 from Monday, July 28, 2025, through Wednesday, July 30, 2025;

2. Within the last month, counsel prepared for the evidentiary and motion hearings in

the following actions for the August 11-14, 2025, Post-Conviction Relief Term of Court in the 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit: Natasha Booker v. The State, (2024-CP-23-5082, 2024-CP-23-5429); Javis Smith v. The State, (2025-CP-23-2028); Jeff Williamson v. The State, (2025-CP-23-2375); Tony Leamon v. The State, (2021-CP-23-1591); William Wilkinson, III v. The State, (2025-CP-23-634); Sheldon Watson v. The State, (2022-CP-23-2311); Samantha Pfau v. The State, (2024-CP-23-6785); Brandon Cox v. The State, (2020-CP-39-1293); Gerald Gadsden v. The State, (2020-CP-23-1971); Michael Sullivan v. The State, (2021-CP-23-2865); Jahru Smith v. The State, (2023-CP-23-0273); Jaron Gibbs v. The State, (2023-CP-39-0651); Joshua Garrett v. The State, (2024-CP-23-1505); Kendrell Warren v. The State, (2022-CP-23-5790); Timiya Massey v. The State, (2022-CP-23-2305); James Durham v. The State, (2022-CP-39-0317); John Hughes v. The State, (2022-CP-23-1462); Kent Washington v. The State, (2022-CP-23-4649); Jeffery Mullins v. The State, (2022-CP-23-3986).

3. Counsel prepared and submitted Returns, Motions to Dismiss, and Conditional Orders on August 18-19, 2025, in the following Post-Conviction Relief actions: Leon Crump v. The State, (2018-CP-23-5731); William Newton v. The State, (2022-CP-23-3291); Elliot Hatton v. The State, (2020-CP-23-03397); Federick Anderson v. The State, (2020-CP-23-4799); Comest Allen v. The State, (2024-CP-23-6068); Dexter Bowens v. The State, (2022-CP-23-6435).

4. Counsel is working on the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter, due today with no further extensions available, in the case of The State v. Denardis Jamont Kilgo, Appellate Case No. 2024-000567, a matter pending in this Court;

5. Counsel is working on other state and federal matters and this motion is not made for the purposes of delay but due to the foregoing.

Due to counsel's involvement in these and other matters pending in court, counsel has been unable to 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.

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

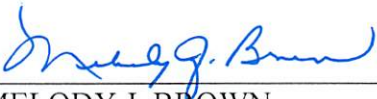
KAYLEE C. KEMP  
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Post Office Box 11549  
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(803) 734-6305

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

August 29, 2025

[signature page continues next page]

I support the finding of good cause.

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
MELODY J. BROWN  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

August 29, 2025

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,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2024-000890

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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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The undersigned certifies that pursuant to Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR and the Supreme Court order April 24, 2024, the Third Extension of Time to file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter have been forwarded to Appellant's counsel, C. Rauch Wise, via email today, August 29, 2025, at [rauchwise@gmail.com](mailto:rauchwise@gmail.com).

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

This is the 29th day of August 2025.

s/Kaylee C. Kemp  
Kaylee C. Kemp  
Assistant Attorney General

## Brandy Rankin

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**From:** Brandy Rankin  
**Sent:** Friday, August 29, 2025 12:57 PM  
**To:** rauchwise@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Kaylee Kemp  
**Subject:** The State v. Troy Christopher Stevenson, Jr. - Third Motion for Extension to File the Initial Brief of Respondent & Designation of Matter - Appellate Case No. 2024-000890  
**Attachments:** Third Extension for Initial Brief & Designation of Matter - Stevenson.pdf

Dear Mr. Wise,

Please find attached the Respondent's Third Motion for Extension to file the Initial Brief & Designation of Matter and Proof of Service in the above-captioned case. These documents will be filed with the South Carolina Court of Appeals today, August 29, 2025, along with a copy of this email. Have a great holiday weekend!

Sincerely,

*Brandy Rankin*

Brandy Rankin, Legal Assistant  
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Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
803-734-6305



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