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**Sep 25 2025**

**SC Court of Appeals**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

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Appeal from Charleston County  
The Honorable William C. McMaster, III, Circuit Court Judge

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THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

v.

COURTNEY CHARLES CORDAE RICHARDS,

APPELLANT.

Appellate Case No. 2024-001274

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

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The undersigned counsel would respectfully request a FOURTH thirty (30) day extension in which to file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in the above-referenced case. Counsel for Appellant has graciously consented to extension requests through September 30, 2025. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following extraordinary circumstances:

Respondent's Initial Brief and Designation of Matter is due to be filed tomorrow, Friday, September 26, 2025. The undersigned attorney has had a number of state, and federal matters to attend to since August 26, 2025. Specifically:

1. Counsel filed the Respondent's Reply to Response in Opposition to Motion for Summary Judgment [ECF #31] in the matter of Anthony M. Hudson, #381313 vs. Warden Tonya James, C/A No. 4:25-02575-JFA-TER on August 29, 2025;

2. Counsel filed a Motion for Additional Interview in the Greenville County capital matter of John Richard Wood, #6005 vs. State of South Carolina, Case No. 2022-CP-23-0219 on September 5, 2025;
3. Counsel filed the Respondent's First Set of Interrogatories, as well as First Set of Requests for Production of Documents, in the Horry County Capital PCR action of Jerome Jenkins, Jr., SCDC #6034 vs. State of South Carolina, Case No. 2022-CP-26-8071 on September 8, 2025;
4. Counsel prepared for a hearing on September 10, 2025 in the capital matter of John Richard Wood, #6005 vs. State of South Carolina, Case No. 2022-CP-23-0219;
5. Counsel filed the Return and Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment in the matter of Ben Robert Stewart vs. Warden of Tyger River Correctional Institution, C/A No. 1:25-2909-JFA-SVH on September 12, 2025;
6. Counsel filed the Response to Motion for Evidentiary Hearing and Response to Motion for Summary Judgment in the matter of Billy Ray Smith vs. Warden, Perry Correctional Institution, C/A 1:25-692-CMC-SVH on September 15, 2025;
7. Counsel filed the Initial Brief of Respondent in the Laurens County direct appeal matter of The State vs. Timothy Paul Spencer, Appellate Case No. 2024-000685 on September 22, 2025;
8. Counsel is filing the Final Brief of Respondent in the Lexington County direct appeal matter of The State vs. Nicolle N. Sanchez-Peralta, Appellate Case No. 2023-001588 today, September 25, 2025; and
9. Counsel has been involved in working **on other matters in state and federal court.**

WHEREFORE, for the following extraordinary circumstances, counsel respectfully requests a FOURTH 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. This extension will make Respondent's Initial Brief due on October 27, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

ALAN WILSON  
Attorney General

DONALD J. ZELENKA  
Deputy Attorney General

MELODY J. BROWN  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

R. BRANDON LARRABEE  
Assistant Attorney General  
S.C. Bar No. 104865

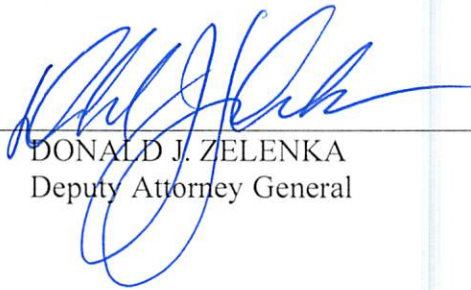
Office of the Attorney General  
Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211-1549  
(803) 734-6305

By: s/R. Brandon Larrabee  
R. BRANDON LARRABEE  
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

September 25, 2025.

I support the finding of extraordinary circumstances.

By:



\_\_\_\_\_  
DONALD J. ZELENKA  
Deputy Attorney General

I further support the finding of extraordinary circumstances.

By:



\_\_\_\_\_  
W. JEFFREY YOUNG  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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I, **R. Brandon Larrabee**, of counsel for the Respondent, hereby certify that pursuant to Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR and the Supreme Court Order of April 24, 2024, the Fourth Extension of Time to File Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter has been forwarded to Appellant's counsel, David Alexander, Esq., via email today, September 25, 2025 to [dalexander@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:dalexander@sccid.sc.gov) and to his assistant at [gtimberlake@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:gtimberlake@sccid.sc.gov).

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

This 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025.

*s/ R. Brandon Larrabee* \_\_\_\_\_

R. Brandon Larrabee,  
Assistant Attorney General  
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