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**Jun 23 2025**

**SC Court of Appeals**

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

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Appeal from the Cherokee County  
Court of General Sessions

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Appellate Case No. 2025-000603

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

APPELLANT,

v.

JOHN BENDARIAN BONNER

RESPONDENT.

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**MOTION FOR THIRD EXTENSION OF TIME**

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Appellant, John Bendarian Bonner, through undersigned counsel, hereby requests an extension of time in which to file and serve his Initial Brief and Designation of Matter, currently due to be filed on June 27, 2025. Specifically, undersigned counsel requests an additional thirty (30) days in which to file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter. In support of this motion, undersigned counsel would show:

1. This Court granted an initial extension of time on April 29, 2025, extending the filing deadline until May 28, 2025. This Court granted a second extension of time on May 22, 2025, extending the filing deadline until June 27, 2025.
2. Since the Court granted its second extension, undersigned counsel spent considerable time on responsibilities related to Attorney Vann's representation of Stephen Stanko who was executed on June 13, 2025. As Mr. Stanko's appointed clemency counsel, Ms. Vann spent the majority of her time since the previous extension working on his case.

This included meeting with Mr. Stanko, working with his legal team and family, and coordinating with the Department of Corrections regarding Mr. Stanko's end of life arrangements. Both Attorneys Major and Cruz also work in Ms. Vann's office and assisted with her representation of Mr. Stanko.

3. Undersigned counsel, Lindsey S. Vann, also represents multiple death sentenced individuals whose cases have been very active over the last month. Attorney Vann is lead counsel in *Starnes v. State*, 2011-CP-3200830, and has been preparing for an evidentiary hearing scheduled to occur in July of this year. Additionally, Attorney Vann is counsel in *Aleksey v. State*, 2024-000140, and the Supreme Court of South Carolina recently accepted certiorari. Mr. Aleksey's brief is currently due on July 3, 2025. These obligations will take the majority of counsel's time over the coming weeks.
4. Undersigned counsel Rosalind S.D. Major similarly represents multiple death sentenced individuals and other incarcerated offenders whose cases have been very active over the last month. Attorney Major is counsel in *Inmon v. State*, 2012-CP-39-00918, a capital PCR action, and is preparing for an evidentiary hearing on Mr. Inmon's application for post-conviction relief anticipated to take place over the summer. She is similarly counsel in *Jones v. State*, 2024-CP-32-01312, an additional capital PCR proceeding, and has been actively conducting investigation into Mr. Jones's available claims for relief.
5. Undersigned counsel Brianna L. Cruz has spent the majority of her time since this Court granted its second extension working on her obligations as a mitigation investigator in *State of North Carolina v. Vicente Alvarez-Galarza*, Case No. 20CR050059-520 (Lee County, N.C.), a North Carolina capital case that is scheduled for trial in October of

this year. Attorney Cruz has also been assisting Attorney Major with the investigation in *Jones v. State*, 2024-CP-32-01312, and the hearing preparation in *Inmon v. State*, 2012-CP-39-00918.

6. Undersigned counsel sought consent to the above-requested extension of time from counsel for Respondent who indicated that they would not oppose an extension.
7. For the above reasons, which counsel believe constitute good cause under this Court's order dated March 18, 2009, undersigned counsel requests that this Court extend the deadline for filing the Appellant's Initial Brief and Designation of Matter an additional thirty days.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Rosalind S.D. Major

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s/Allison Franz

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<sup>1</sup> Allison Franz's signature appears on this motion to comply with the requirements of Section 3 of the Supreme Court of South Carolina's order dated March 18, 2009, which requires another attorney from counsel's firm to sign as a certification that they believe the extension is warranted and that there is good cause to seek the extension. Ms. Franz is not assisting in the preparation of the initial brief or designation of matter in this case.

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a copy of Applicant’s Motion for Third Extension of Time was served was served by email to the AIS email addresses, pursuant to Section (b) of the Supreme Court of South Carolina’s May 6, 2022 Order, this 23rd day of June, 2025, upon the following:

- Mark Farthing, Esquire: mfarthing@scag.gov
- Alan Wilson, Esquire: agwilson@scag.gov
- Barry Barnette, Esquire: bbarnette@spartanburgcounty.org

s/ Rosalind S.D. Major  
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