

**RECEIVED**

**Jan 02 2026**

**SC Court of Appeals**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Court of Appeals

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Appeal from Cherokee County  
The Honorable R. Keith Kelly, Circuit Court Judge

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THE STATE,

Respondent,

v.

EDWARD VINCENT BAYNARD,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2024-001912

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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 thirty (30) day extension in which to file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in the above-referenced case. Opposing counsel has graciously consented to all extensions through January 31, 2026. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following:

Respondent's Initial Brief and Designation of Matter are due today, January 2, 2026, as per this Court's Order granting Respondent's third extension request. The undersigned attorney for the Respondent has had a number of state and federal matters to attend to since December 2025. Specifically,

1. Counsel prepared and presented Oral Argument to the South Carolina Court of Appeals on December 9, 2025 @ 10:00 am, in the matter of The State v. Travontae Mitchell, Appellate Case

No. 2023-001323;

2. Counsel prepared and presented Oral Argument to the South Carolina Court of Appeals on December 9, 2025 @ 10:40 am, in the matter of The State of South Carolina v. Che Leon Ransom, Appellate Case No. 2023-001348;

3. Counsel prepared and filed the Return and Memorandum of Law in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment on December 10, 2025, in the matter of Jonathan C. Hughes v. Warden, Lieber Correctional Institution, C/A No. 5:25-11348--RMG-KDW, a matter pending in this Court;

4. Counsel prepared and filed the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter on December 12, 2025, in the matter of The State v. Tyrase Collins, a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals, Appellate Case No. 2024-001238;

5. Counsel prepared and filed the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter December 15, 2025, in the matter of The State v. Bobby Jo Baynard, Appellate Case No. 2024-001941, a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;

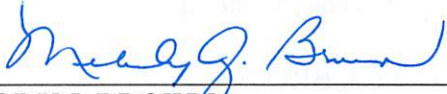
6. Counsel prepared and filed the Respondent's Petition for Rehearing on December 18, 2025, in the matter of The State v. Eric Anton Graham, Appellate Case No. 2023-000160, a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;

7. Counsel prepared and filed the Return to Petition for Writ of Certiorari on December 23, 2025, in the matter of Stacy Murray v. State of South Carolina, Appellate Case No. 2025-000684, a matter pending in the South Carolina Supreme Court;

8. Counsel is working on other state and federal matters, and this request is not made for the purpose of delay but due to the foregoing.

WHEREFORE, counsel respectfully requests a thirty (30) day extension of time to serve

I support the finding of good cause.

By:   
MELODY J. BROWN  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

I, too, support the finding of good cause.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
\*DONALD J. ZELENKA  
Deputy Attorney General

\*Jacqueline, per our phone conversation today Mr. Zelenka is out of the office today. The completely signed and executed extension will be sent out on Monday, January 5, 2026

January 2, 2026

and file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter.

Respectfully submitted,

ALAN WILSON  
Attorney General

DONALD J. ZELENKA  
Deputy Attorney General

MELODY J. BROWN  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

TOMMY EVANS, JR.  
Assistant Attorney General

By: s/Tommy Evans, Jr.  
TOMMY EVANS, JR.  
No. 7448  
Office of the Attorney General  
Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
(803) 734-6305

ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

January 2, 2026

*[signature page continues next page]*

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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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I, Tommy Evans, Jr., certifies that pursuant to Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR and the Supreme Court order of April 24, 2024, the fourth extension to file the Initial Brief of Respondent, Designation of Matter and Proof of Service have been forwarded to Appellant's counsel, David Alexander via email today, January 2, 2026 to Wanda Carter [WCarter@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:WCarter@sccid.sc.gov) and to Ms. Carter's legal assistant, Scott Leverett, to [SLeverett@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:SLeverett@sccid.sc.gov).

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

This is the 2nd day of January 2026.

*s/Tommy Evans, Jr.*

Tommy Evans, Jr.

S.C. Bar No. 12990

Post Office Box 11549

Columbia, South Carolina 29211

ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

## Brandy Rankin

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**From:** Brandy Rankin  
**Sent:** Friday, January 2, 2026 11:28 AM  
**To:** Carter, Wanda  
**Cc:** Leverett, Scott; Tommy Evans, Jr.  
**Subject:** The State v. Edward Vincent Baynard - 4th Extension to file Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter - Appellate Case No. 2024-001912  
**Attachments:** Fourth Extension to file IBOR - EDWARDE BAYNARD.pdf

Dear Ms. Carter,

Please find attached the Respondent's Fourth Motion for Extension to file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter. Please note that it lacks Mr. Zelenka's signature as he is out of the office. I spoke with the Court and they indicated they would accept the incomplete extension until Monday when I can obtain Mr. Zelenka's signature. Thank you!

Sincerely,

*Brandy Rankin*

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



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