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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 8, 2026

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Supreme Court of South Carolina
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(via e-filing only - supctfilings@sccourts.org)

Re: Blaton W. Smith v. State of South Carolina
Appellate Case No. 2025-001590

Dear Ms. Howard:

The Return to Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above-referenced post-conviction relief appeal is due to be served and filed today. Respondent respectfully requests a first, thirty-day extension to serve and file this return based on the heavy caseload of undersigned counsel. Opposing counsel has consented to this request via electronic mail.

Please let me know if I can provide the Court with any additional information regarding this first extension request.

Sincerely,

Kylee M. Kanealey
Assistant Attorney General
SC Bar No. 107060

KMK/sce

cc: Molly M. Keegan, Counsel for Respondent (via email only)