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Jan 14 2026

S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 14, 2026

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard  
Clerk of the South Carolina Supreme Court  
Post Office Box 11330  
Columbia, SC 29211  
(via email only - [supctfilings@sccourts.org](mailto:supctfilings@sccourts.org))

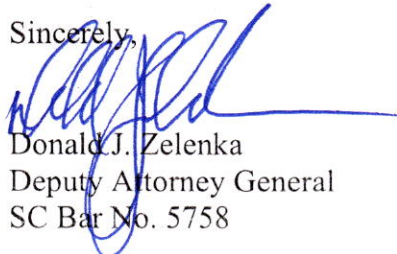
**Re: Bryan J. Ellis, # 373122 v. State of South Carolina**  
**Appellate Case No.: 2025-000761**

Dear Ms. Howard,

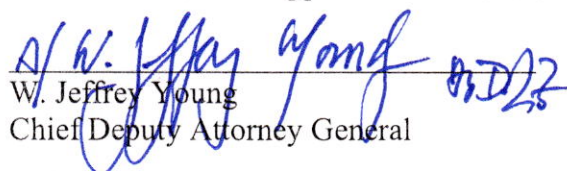
The Respondent's Return to Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above-referenced post-conviction relief appeal is due to be served and filed today. Respondent respectfully requests a fourth, thirty-day extension to serve and file this return based on the heavy caseload of undersigned counsel. Counsel for Petitioner has consented to this extension request pursuant to a reciprocal agreement between the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of Appellate Defense.

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

Sincerely,

  
Donald J. Zelenka  
Deputy Attorney General  
SC Bar No. 5758

I have reviewed and approve this extension request

  
W. Jeffrey Young  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

DJZ/lis

cc: Gary H. Johnson, II, Counsel for Petitioner (via email only)