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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 20, 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: Ricardo L. Middleton, #381526 v. State of South Carolina
Appellate Case No: 2025-001597

Dear Ms. Howard:

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 third, thirty-day extension to serve and file this return based on the heavy caseload of the undersigned counsel. Counsel for Petitioner has consented and that email is attached.

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

Sincerely,

D. Russell Barlow, II
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General
SC Bar No. 105228

DRB/sce

cc: C. Rauch Wise, Counsel for Petitioner (via email only)