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Jan 28 2026

S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 28, 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](mailto:supctfilings@sccourts.org))

**Re: John M. Ghent, Jr. v. State of South Carolina**  
**Appellate Case No. 2025-000932**

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 second, 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 extension request.

Sincerely,

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

DRB/sce

cc: Wanda H. Carter, Counsel for Respondent (via email only)