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**Feb 05 2026**

**SC Court of Appeals**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
In the Court of Appeals

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Appeal from Spartanburg County  
The Honorable J. Mark Hayes, II, Circuit Court Judge

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THE STATE,

Appellant,

v.

CASEY DOUGLAS,

Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2025-000914

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**MOTION FOR THIRD EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE  
INITIAL BRIEF OF APPELLANT AND  
DESIGNATION OF MATTER**

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Undersigned counsel would respectfully request a thirty (30) day extension up to and including March 9, 2026, in which to serve and file the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter in the above-referenced case. Mr. Johnson has consented to all extension requests through March 1, 2026. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following:

Appellant's Initial Brief and Designation of Matter are due today, February 5, 2026. Pursuant to this Court's Order dated January 9, 2026. Though much of the work has—at the time of this motion— been completed, counsel for Appellant has not been able to properly finish the brief for filing within the allotted time due to other state and federal matters, including preparing and attending a weeklong capital PCR evidentiary hearing beginning January 12, 2026, in

Conway, SC. (*Luzinski Cottrell*); and having completed and filed a final brief of respondent in a murder direct appeal (*Tyriese Robinson, Jan. 8, 2026*); completed and filed with co-counsel a notice of appeal in a capital PCR (*Bobby Wayne Stone, Jan. 20, 2026*); prepared and filed a reply to return in opposition to motion for summary judgment in non-capital federal habeas corpus action (*Charlie Robinson, Jan. 22, 2026*); reviewed and filed return to and memorandum of law in support of motion for summary in a non-capital federal habeas corpus action (*Willie Williams, Jan. 23, 2026*); prepared and shared joint appendix cites with opposing counsel for a capital PCR matter (*William Dickerson, Jan. 23, 2026*); prepared and filed a reply in response to motion for summary judgment in non-capital federal habeas corpus action (*Nathaniel Bradley, Jan. 27, 2026*); prepared and filed a status report in a capital federal habeas corpus action (*Bobby Stone, Jan. 29, 2026*); prepared and filed a return to appointment of outside counsel in a capital case PCR appeal pending in the South Carolina Supreme Court (*Bobby Stone, Feb. 2, 2026*); reviewed and edited a return and memorandum in support of motion to dismiss in a federal habeas corpus action (*Daniel Crowe, Feb. 3, 2026*); and prepared and filed a Response in Opposition to Motion to Vacate in a non-capital federal habeas corpus action. (*Terrell McCoy, Feb. 2, 2026*). As noted above, counsel has been working on drafting the initial brief of appellant in this case; however, it is not yet ready for filing.

Due to counsel's involvement in these and other matters pending in state and federal court, and considering counsel's administrative responsibilities as supervisor for murder appeals, federal habeas corpus actions, and capital litigation, undersigned counsel has been unable to timely complete the brief in this direct appeal. For the above reasons, Appellant is requesting a thirty (30) day extension of time in which to complete briefing in the captioned murder direct appeal.

This request is made in good faith, and not for the purpose of simple delay, but for the reasons outlined above. Counsel intends to continue work to bring the brief to completion within the time requested.

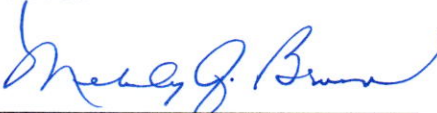
Respectfully Submitted,

ALAN WILSON  
Attorney General

DONALD J. ZELENKA  
Deputy Attorney General

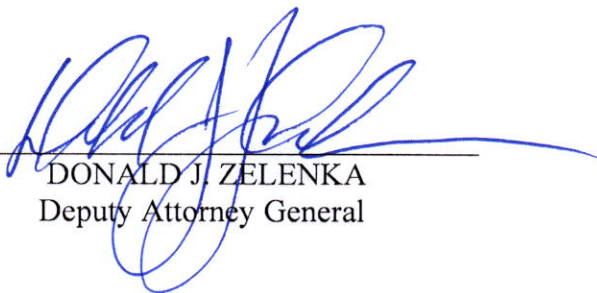
MELODY J. BROWN  
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

Post Office Box 11549  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
(803) 734-6305

By:   
MELODY J. BROWN  
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

February 5, 2026.

I support the finding of good cause.

By:   
DONALD J. ZELENKA  
Deputy Attorney General

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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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The undersigned certifies that pursuant to Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR and the Supreme Court order of April 24, 2024, the Motion for Extension of Time to Serve and File the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter, along with Certificate of Service has been forwarded to Respondent's counsel, Michael A. Berry, Esquire at [mberry@spartanburgcounty.org](mailto:mberry@spartanburgcounty.org) and Gary H. Johnson, Esquire via email today, February 5, 2026 to [ghjohnson@sccid.sc.gov](mailto:ghjohnson@sccid.sc.gov) and to his assistant at [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 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

*s/ Angela Brown*  
Administrative Coordinator

## Angela Brown

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**From:** Angela Brown  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 5, 2026 12:27 PM  
**To:** mberry@spartanburgcounty.org; gjohnson@sccid.sc.gov; Leverett, Scott  
**Cc:** Melody Brown  
**Subject:** The State v. Casey Douglas (2025-000914)  
**Attachments:** Douglas.Motion for Extension for IBOA.pdf

Counsel, please find attached the state's motion for an extension of time to serve and file the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter in the above appeal. The motion will be electronically filed with the Court of Appeals on today's date.

Thank you,

**Angela Bennett Brown, Administrative Coordinator II**  
Office of the South Carolina Attorney General  
Criminal Division | Office [803-734-0368](tel:803-734-0368) | [Abennett@scag.gov](mailto:Abennett@scag.gov)  
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