

RECEIVED
Jun 11 2026
SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

Appeal from Greenville County
The Honorable Patrick C. Fant, III, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

Respondent,

v.

ZACHARY DAVID HUGHES,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2025-000367

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

The undersigned counsel would respectfully request an eleven (11) day extension in which to file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in the above-referenced case. Opposing counsel has graciously consented to this extension request. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following:

Respondent's Initial Brief and Designation of Matter are due today, June 11, 2026, as per this Court's Order granting Respondent's second extension request. The undersigned attorneys for the Respondent have had a number of state and federal matters to attend throughout the month. There is only one issue remaining to be briefed. Specifically, as to undersigned counsel Linker: (1) Counsel prepared and filed a Response in Opposition to Petitioner's Motion for Leave to File Amended Habeas Petition in James Hutchinson v. Warden of Kershaw Correctional Institution,

C/A No. 5:25-cv-13034-MGL-KDW on May 20, 2026, a federal habeas matter pending in district court; (2) Counsel prepared and filed a Reply to Petitioner's Objections to Report & Recommendation in Daniel Crowe v. Curtis Earley, C/A No. 1:25-cv-13650-BHH-SVH on May 21, 2026, a federal habeas matter pending in district court; (3) Counsel prepared and filed the Return to Petition for Writ of Certiorari in The State v. Micheal Lamont Watts, Appellate Case No. 2026-000924 on May 28, 2026, a matter pending in the Supreme Court; (4) Counsel prepared and filed the Initial Brief of Respondent in The State v. Trampas Adam Prater, Appellate Case No. 2024-002102 on June 2, 2026, a matter pending in this Court.

Next, as to undersigned counsel Brown, she has been pulled away to other pressing work including argument presentation and several complex filings in capital cases, with her most recent work reflecting: (1) Document review for Marion Lindsey v. Anderson et. al., C/A No. 2:26-cv-00560-DCN-MGB, a pending capital federal habeas action, (May 27, 2026); (2) Preparation and filing of Objections to the order regarding statute of limitations in that same case, (Marion Lindsey, June 1, 2026); (3) Preparation and presentation of oral argument in The State v. Maurice Singleton, Appellate Case No. 2023-000554, a non-capital murder direct appeal pending before this Court (June 3, 2026); (4) Preparation for and participation in a status conference on Petitioner's Motion to Dismiss Counsel in James Robertson v. Stirling et. al., C/A No. 2:11-cv-00063-TMC-MGB, a pending capital federal habeas action (June 4, 2026); (5) Completion and filing of a Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals Brief in William Dickerson v. Stirling et. al., C/A No. 9:22-cv-00108-SAL, a capital federal habeas action (June 9, 2026); (6) Preparation of a Memorandum of Law to be submitted to the circuit court in Timothy Jones v. State, 2024-CP-32-1312, a capital PCR action (due June 12, 2026); (7) Aiding in the preparation of the Petition for Writ of Certiorari and Appendix in Bobby Wayne Stone v. State, Appellate Case No. 2026-000115, a capital PCR action

(due June 12, 2026).

Thus, this request is not made for the purpose of delay but due to the foregoing.

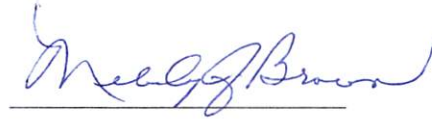
WHEREFORE, counsel respectfully requests an eleven (11) day extension of time to serve and file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter.

Respectfully submitted,

ALAN WILSON
Attorney General

DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

MELODY J. BROWN
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General
S.C. Bar No. 14244

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melody J. Brown", is written over a horizontal line.

P. SANDERS LINKER
Assistant Attorney General
S.C. Bar No. 107688

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Sanders Linker", is written over a horizontal line.

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ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I, P. Sanders Linker, certify that pursuant to Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR and the Supreme Court order of April 24, 2024, the Motion for Extension of Time to file the Initial Brief of Respondent, Designation of Matter and Proof of Service have been forwarded to Appellant's counsel, Andrew B. Moorman, Sr., Esquire and Mark Moyer, Esquire via email today, June 11, 2026 to andy@andymooremanlaw.com and mark@markmoyerlaw.com.

I further certify that all parties required by Rule to be served have been served.

This is the 11th day of June 2026.

s/P. Sanders Linker

P. Sanders Linker

S.C. Bar No. 107688

Post Office Box 11549

Columbia, South Carolina 29211

ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

Sanders Linker

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Jun 11 2026

From: Sanders Linker
Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2026 4:20 PM
To: andy@andymoormanlaw.com; mark@markmoyerlaw.com
Subject: The State v. Zachary Hughes (2025-000367) - Respondent's Third Extension Request
Attachments: Motion for Third Extension to file Initial Brief DOM.pdf

SC Court of Appeals

Counsel,

Attached please find Respondent's Third Extension Request and Certificate of Service.

Best,

P. Sanders Linker, Assistant Attorney General
South Carolina Attorney General's Office
Capital and Collateral Litigation Section | Office 803-734-0918
P.O. Box 11549 | Columbia, SC 29211
scaq.gov



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