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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 5, 2026

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk, Supreme Court of South Carolina
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

RE: **Ricky Lee Blackwell v. State of South Carolina**
Appellate Case No: 2025-001377
Capital Case

Dear Ms. Howard:

The Return to Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above appeal is due to be served and filed today, August 5, 2026. Undersigned counsel hereby requests a 30-day extension in which to serve and file its Return. Due to counsel's heavy caseload, including addressing other capital matters as well, counsel has been unable to complete the return.

I respectfully request this Court grant an extension until September 4, 2026, to serve and file the Return to Petition for Writ of Certiorari.

Opposing counsel has graciously consented to this request.

Sincerely,

s/ Melody J. Brown

Melody J. Brown
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

In compliance with:

In Re: Extensions in Criminal and Post-Conviction Relief Cases, (S.C. Sup. Ct. order dated March 18, 2009) (Davis Adv. Sh. No. 13 at 1).

s/Donald J. Zelenka

DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

cc: Rosalind S.D. Major, Esquire (via email only)
Brianna L. Cruz, Esquire (via email only)