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Sep 25 2026

SC Court of Appeals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In the Court of Appeals

Appeal from Lexington County
The Honorable Debra R. McCaslin, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

Respondent,

v.

CLEVELAND STONE, JR.,

Appellant.

Appellate Case No. 2024-002010

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

The undersigned counsel would respectfully request a thirty (30) day extension in which to serve and file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter in the above-referenced case. Opposing counsel has graciously consented to all extension requests through October 1, 2026. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following:

Respondent's Initial Brief and Designation of Matter is due Wednesday, September 30, 2026, as per this Court's Order granting Respondent's third extension request. The undersigned attorney for the Respondent has had a number of state and federal matters to attend to since September 2026 when the Court granted Respondent's second extension. Specifically:

1. Counsel prepared and filed the Petition for Writ of Certiorari, together with the Appendices on August 25, 2026, in the matter of The State v. Anijah Yarnell, Appellate Case No. 2023-000571, a matter pending in the South Carolina Supreme Court;

2. Counsel prepared and filed the Post Hearing Brief in the matter of Norman Edwin Starnes v. State of South Carolina, Case No. 2022-CP-32-830, on August 28, 2026, a capital Post-Conviction Relief matter;
3. Counsel prepared and filed the Response in Opposition to Petitioner's Rule 60(b) Motion on September 8, 2026, in the matter of Arthur Quentin Jones, Jr. v. Warden Evans Correctional Institution, CIA No.: 6:24-04191-JFA-KFM, a matter pending in the District Court;
4. Counsel prepared and filed the Final Brief of Respondent on September 10, 2026, in the matter of The State v. Keoki Kenta Harris, Appellate Case No. 2024-0001742, a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;
5. Counsel prepared and filed the Response in Opposition to Petitioner's Rule 59(e) & 60(b) Motion on September 14, 2026, in the matter of Naijuwan S. Chisolm v. Warden of Ridgeland Correctional Institution, CIA No.: 1:25-cv-11722-JD, a matter pending in the District Court;
6. Counsel prepared and presented Oral Argument on September 16, 2026, in the matter of The State v. Thomas E. McDowell, Appellate Case No. 2024-000226, a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;
7. Counsel prepared and filed the Response in Opposition to Petition to Vacate Bond on September 21, 2026, in the matter of The State v. Anijah Yarnell, Appellate Case No. 2026-001715, a matter pending in the South Carolina Supreme Court;
8. Counsel filed the Respondent's Reply to Petitioner's Objections to the Order Denying Appointment of Counsel on September 23, 2026, in the matter of Walter

A. Palacios v. Brian Kendall, CIA No. 5:26-cv-2617-RMG-KDW, this is a matter pending in the District Court;

9. Counsel prepared and filed the Final Brief of Respondent on September 23, 2026, in the matter of The State v. Brandon Lee Corder, Appellate Case No. 2023-001543, this is a matter pending in the South Carolina Court of Appeals;

10. Counsel is working on other state and federal matters, and this request is not made for the purpose of delay but due to the foregoing.

WHEREFORE, counsel respectfully requests a thirty (30) day extension of time to serve and file the Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

ALAN WILSON
Attorney General

DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

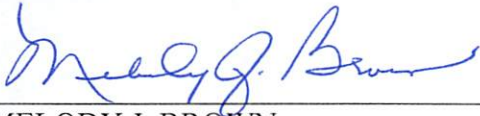
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By: s/W. Joseph Maye
W. Joseph Maye
Assistant Attorney General
ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT

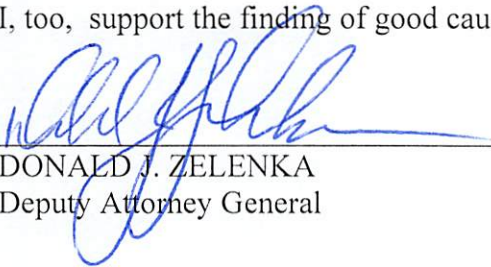
[signature page continued next page]

I support the finding of good cause



MELODY J. BROWN
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

I, too, support the finding of good cause



DONALD J. ZELENKA
Deputy Attorney General

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PROOF OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that pursuant to Rule 262(c)(3), SCACR and the Supreme Court order April 24, 2024, the Fourth Extension of Time to file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter have been forwarded to Appellant's counsel, Wesley Chandler Norville, Esquire, via email today, September 25, 2026 to CNorville@sccid.sc.gov and to his assistant, Kaylynn Warren at KWarren@sccid.sc.gov.

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

This is the 25th day of September 2026.

s/W. Joseph Maye

W. Joseph Maye

Assistant Attorney General

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SC Court of Appeals

Brandy Rankin

From: Brandy Rankin
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2026 4:44 PM
To: cnorville@sccid.sc.gov
Cc: Joe Maye; Warren, Kaylynn
Subject: The State v. Cleveland Stone, Jr. - Fourth Extension to file Initial Brief of Respondent and Designation of Matter - Appellate Case No. 2024-002010
Attachments: Cleveland Stone 4th Extension IBOR_DOM.pdf

Dear Mr. Norville,

Please find attached the Respondent's Fourth Motion for Extension to file the Initial Brief and Designation of Matter, together with the Proof of Service. These documents will be filed today, September 25, 2026, with the SC Court of Appeals, along with a copy of this email. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brandy Rankin

Brandy Rankin, Legal Assistant to W. Joseph Maye
Office of the Attorney General
Post Office Box 11549
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803-734-6305



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