

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS**

Zy'Tawn Keinas Childs, Petitioner,
v.

State of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2025-002046

Greenwood County PCR Case No. 2024-CP-24-00907

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OCT 16 2026
SC Court of Appeals

CORRESPONDENCE, REQUEST TO ACCEPT CORRECTED PROOF OF SERVICE, AND
REQUEST FOR LEAVE TO FILE SUBSTITUTED JOHNSON PRO SE RESPONSE

Date: October 9 2026

Clerk of Court
South Carolina Court of Appeals
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia, SC 29211

Re: Second Motion for Extension of Time Received September 1, 2026; September 3, 2026
Deficiency Letter

Re: Second Extension Request Received September 1, 2026 — Request for Leave to Substitute
Johnson Response; September 3, 2026 Deficiency Letter

I am the incarcerated, self-represented petitioner in the above-captioned case. I respectfully submit this correspondence and the accompanying corrected certificate of service concerning my second motion for an extension of time, which the Court received on September 1, 2026. September 1 is the Court's receipt date, not the date of an order granting the motion.

I am the incarcerated, self-represented petitioner in this case. My original Johnson pro se response was docketed on August 19, 2026. The Court received my second request for an extension of time on September 1, 2026. That request sought additional time to prepare and submit a revised response in place of my previously docketed Johnson response. September 1 was the Court's receipt date; it was not a date on which the Court granted the request.

The Clerk's September 3, 2026 deficiency letter advised that the proof of service accompanying my second extension request did not include the names and addresses of the attorneys served, and directed correction within ten days. I did not receive the letter through institutional mail and learned of it through the online docket. I therefore respectfully ask the Court to excuse the late correction and accept the accompanying corrected certificate of service.

I respectfully ask the Court (1) to accept the corrected proof of service and consider my second extension request notwithstanding the deficiency; (2) to grant additional time and expressly grant

leave to file a substituted Johnson pro se response replacing the response docketed August 19, 2026; and (3) to advise me of any further filing or service requirements. I understand that an extension of time does not itself authorize substitution of an already-filed response, and I do not represent that my second request or leave to substitute has been granted. Unless and until the Court permits substitution, I do not withdraw my August 19 response.

Respectfully submitted,

Zy'Tawn Keinas Childs

Zy'Tawn Keinas Childs, Pro Se

SCDC #390397

Lee Correctional Institution

990 Wisacky Highway

Bishopville, SC 29010

ENCLOSURE: CORRECTED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on October 9 2026, I served a true copy of this correspondence, this corrected certificate of service, and a copy of my second extension request (received by the Court September 1, 2026) on the following attorneys by the method and date indicated below. This certificate must be completed and signed only after actual service.

Wanda H. Carter
Chief Appellate Defender
South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense
Division of Appellate Defense
P.O. Box 11589
Columbia, SC 29211-1589
Attorney for Petitioner

Zachary W. Jones
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia, SC 29211
Attorney for Respondent

Method of service: USPS regular mail

Date actually served: October 9 2026

Signature: Zy'Tawn Keinas Childs

Zy'Tawn Keinas Childs, Pro Se

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Note: This certificate must accurately describe actual service. If counsel have not yet been served with the second extension motion, serve them and complete the certificate afterward.

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v.

State of South Carolina, Respondent.

Appellate Case No. 2025-002046

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**MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO PROPERLY PREPARE AND FILE PRO SE
JOHNSON RESPONSE**

Petitioner Zy'Tawn Keinas Childs, proceeding pro se, respectfully moves for an extension of time so that he may properly prepare, complete, and file a meaningful pro se response to appointed counsel's Johnson petition. Petitioner is not seeking additional time merely to delay the proceeding. He needs additional time to review the record, organize the documentary evidence, research the legal issues available to him, and prepare a response that fully identifies the issues he believes warrant appellate review.

On August 12, 2026, the Supreme Court of South Carolina entered an order pursuant to Rule 243(l), SCACR, transferring this post-conviction-relief appeal to the South Carolina Court of Appeals.

Petitioner did not receive and sign for the August 12, 2026 transfer order at the correctional facility until August 26, 2026. Petitioner therefore did not know of the transfer when he mailed his Johnson response or his separate extension request.

Petitioner mailed his pro se Johnson response on August 14, 2026. USPS tracking no. 9505510276526226495348 reflects delivery to the Columbia, South Carolina post-office box on August 19, 2026 at 8:12 a.m.

Petitioner mailed a separate request for an extension of time on August 15, 2026, the day after mailing the Johnson response.

Institutional records further reflect that Petitioner did not receive and sign for the earlier correspondence advising him of the opportunity to file a pro se Johnson response until July 7, 2026.

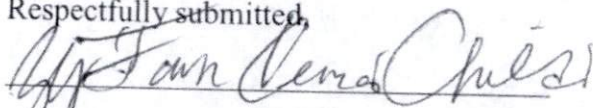
Petitioner is incarcerated and has limited access to the institutional law library, legal research materials, copying services, records, and other resources necessary to properly prepare his pro se Johnson response. The response requires review of a substantial record, including the PCR proceedings, search-warrant materials, police reports, medical and forensic records, photographs, recordings, and pre-plea communications relevant to Petitioner's ineffective-assistance and suppression-related claims. Additional time is therefore necessary for Petitioner to properly prepare the response rather than submit an incomplete filing.

Petitioner has acted diligently and in good faith. Any delay resulted from delayed institutional receipt of court correspondence, restricted access to legal resources, and the transfer of the case while Petitioner's filings were in transit, rather than any intent to delay the proceeding.

Petitioner respectfully requests that the Court recognize the Johnson response mailed August 14, 2026 and delivered August 19, 2026 as part of Appellate Case No. 2025-002046. To the extent Petitioner is permitted or required to supplement, correct, complete, or refile his response following transfer, Petitioner respectfully requests thirty (30) additional days so that he may properly prepare a complete pro se response addressing the issues and supporting record.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests thirty (30) additional days, or such other period as the Court deems appropriate, to properly prepare, complete, and file his pro se Johnson response; that the Court recognize the response already mailed and delivered; that Petitioner be permitted to supplement or correct that response if necessary; and that the Court grant such other relief as is just and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



Zy Tawn Keinas Childs, Petitioner Pro Se

SCDC No. 390397

Lee Correctional Institution

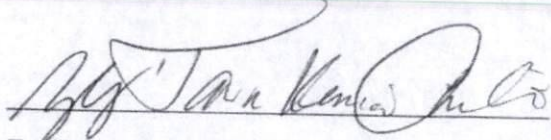
990 Wisacky Highway

Bishopville, SC 29010

Date: 8/27/2026

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on August 27, 2026, I placed a true and correct copy of the foregoing Motion for Extension of Time to Properly Prepare and File Pro Se Johnson Response in the institutional mailing system, with sufficient postage or other authorized institutional mailing procedures, addressed to counsel for Respondent at the address shown on the most recent filing or correspondence in this case.



Zy Tawn Keinas Childs, Petitioner Pro Se

SCDC No. 390397

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SC Court of Appeals

Zy'Tawn Chites 390397
990 Wsacky Hwy
Bishopville SC 29010



9589 0710 5270 2727 2408 65

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FCM LETTER
GREENWOOD, SC 29649
OCT 13, 2026



South Carolina Court of Appeals
Clerk of Court
PO Box 11629
Columbia SC 29211

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