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SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

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APPEAL FROM RICHLAND COUNTY
Court of Common Pleas
The Honorable Courtney Clyburn Pope, Circuit Court Judge

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Appellate Case No. 2026-002236

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Russell L. Bauknight, as Trustee of the James Brown 2000 Irrevocable Trust and the James Brown Legacy Trust, as Personal Representative of the Estate of James Brown, and on behalf of Henry Dargan McMaster, in his capacity as Attorney General of the State of South Carolina; Tommie Rae Brown, individually and on behalf of her minor child, James Brown II; Daryl J. Brown, individually and on behalf of his minor child Janise Vanisha Brown; Lindsey Delores Brown; Deanna J. Brown Thomas; Jason Brown-Lewis; Yamma N. Brown, individually and on behalf of her minor children Sydney Lumar and Carrington Lumar; Tonya Brown; Venisha Brown Larry Brown; and Terry Brown and Henry Dargan McMaster, in his capacity as Attorney General of the State of South Carolina, Plaintiffs,

v. Adele J. Pope and Robert L. Buchanan, Jr., Defendants,

of whom Russell L. Bauknight is the Respondent and Adele J. Pope is the Appellant.

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**RESPONDENT'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO APPELLANT'S "MOTION TO UNSEAL TRANSCRIPT AND EXHIBITS AND FOR RELATED RELIEF"**

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Respondent Russell L. Bauknight, as personal representative of the Estate of James Brown and trustee of the James Brown 2000 Irrevocable Trust ("Bauknight"), hereby moves the Court for a ten-day extension of time to respond to Appellant Adele J. Pope's ("Pope") October 19, 2026 "Motion to Unseal Transcript and Exhibits and for Related Relief" ("Motion to Unseal"). Presently, Bauknight's response may be due as soon as October 29, 2026. With the requested extension, the response would be due on November 9, 2026. This Motion is made pursuant to Rule 263(b), SCACR, and is made for good cause as detailed below.

The undersigned first was made aware of the Motion to Unseal on October 21, 2026 via an email exchange between Pope and the Court concerning another matter involving this appeal. This email referenced Pope's submission of a motion. The undersigned first reviewed the Motion to Unseal on or around October 23, 2026, after it was made available on C-Track on October 22, 2026. The copy served upon the undersigned by Pope, postmarked October 19, 2026, did not arrive until October 26, 2026. Despite the delays in receipt, the undersigned believes a response could be due as soon as October 29, 2026, and respectfully requests more time to draft the response.

In further support of the requested extension, and without conceding that the Motion to Unseal has any merit, Bauknight notes that the lengthy Motion to Unseal and accompanying Appendix will require a detailed response. The Motion to Unseal references numerous issues that extend back through the complex procedural history of the 16-year-old underlying trial court case and related cases; includes inflammatory personal attacks on Bauknight and his counsel; and appears geared toward what Bauknight assumes is Pope's view of the merits of this appeal despite the fact that no briefs have been filed yet. Suffice it to say, there is much to respond to.

Therefore, for good cause shown, Bauknight respectfully requests an extension of time to November 9, 2026 to respond to Pope's Motion to Unseal.

*Signature page to follow.*

Respectfully submitted,

**SWEENY, WINGATE & BARROW, P.A.**

s/ Aaron J. Hayes
Kenneth B. Wingate
Mark V. Gende
Aaron J. Hayes
Sweeny, Wingate & Barrow, P.A.
1515 Lady Street (29201)
P.O. Box 12129
Columbia, SC 29211
(803) 256-2233

**ATTORNEYS FOR RESPONDENT**

October 27, 2026

Columbia, South Carolina

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v. Adele J. Pope and Robert L. Buchanan, Jr., Defendants,

of whom Russell L. Bauknight is the Respondent and Adele J. Pope is the Appellant.

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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

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The undersigned counsel for Respondent certifies that this day he has served a copy of the following upon Appellant:

1. Respondent's Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to Appellant's Motion to Unseal Transcript and Exhibits and for Related Relief

Said service upon Appellant having been accomplished by emailing a copy of same to her AIS email address, and mailing a copy of same to her via US mail, as follows:

**Adele J. Pope, Esq. (*pro se*)**
**1228 Walnut Street**
**Newberry, SC 29108**
**adele@popelawfirm.com**

s/ Aaron J. Hayes
Aaron J. Hayes
Sweeny, Wingate & Barrow, P.A.
1515 Lady Street (29201)
P.O. Box 12129
Columbia, SC 29211
(803) 256-2233
*Attorney for Respondent*

October 27, 2026

Columbia, South Carolina

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S·W·B

SWEENY WINGATE & BARROW

October 27, 2026

Reply to: Main Office

**Aaron J. Hayes**
**(803) 256-2233**
**ajh@swblaw.com**

**VIA E-MAIL: ctappfilings@sccourts.org**
The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings
South Carolina Court of Appeals
1220 Senate Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

RE: Russell L. Bauknight v. Adele J. Pope (5)
Court of Appeals Case No.: 2026-002236
Our File: 7389-4900

Dear Ms. Kitchings:

Please find attached for filing the following documents:

1. Respondent's Motion for Extension of Time to Respond to Appellant's Motion to Unseal Transcript and Exhibits and for Related Relief
2. Proof of Service

Via hand-delivery along with a copy of this cover letter, my office will deliver a check for the $50.00 filing fee. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours truly,

**SWEENY, WINGATE & BARROW, P.A.**

Aaron J. Hayes

AJH

cc: Adele J. Pope, Esq., *pro se* (via email & US mail)
Hon. Jenny Abbot Kitchings (via hand-delivery; cover letter and filing fee only)