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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

November 12, 2026

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk of the South Carolina Supreme Court
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(via email only - supctfilings@sccourts.org)

Re: **James Gardner v. State of South Carolina**
Appellate Case No. 2026-000653

Dear Ms. Howard:

Respondent's Return to Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above-referenced post-conviction relief appeal is due to be served and filed today. Respondent respectfully requests a third, thirty-day extension to serve and file this return based on the heavy caseload of undersigned counsel. Counsel for Petitioner has consented to this extension request pursuant to a reciprocal agreement between the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of Appellate Defense.

Please let me know if I can provide the Court with any additional information regarding this extension request.

Sincerely,

Danielle Dixon
Assistant Attorney General
SC Bar No. 73999

Melody Jane Brown
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General

cc: Kersey A. Reynolds, Counsel for Petitioner (*via email only*)