

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM KERSHAW COUNTY
Court of General Sessions
Doyet A, Early, III, Circuit Court Judge

Court of Appeals Case No. 2015-001436

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APR 01 2016
SC Court of Appeals

The State of South Carolina,..... Respondent

v.

Nakia Johnson,..... Appellant.

**Petition for Extension of Time to File Initial Brief
and Designation of Matter to be Included in Record on Appeal**

The appellant, Nakia Johnson, petitions this Court for an order extending the time to file his initial brief and designation of matter to be included in the Record on Appeal for thirty days until Monday, May 1, 2016. This petition is the fourth request for an extension. This request is based on the following grounds:

1) During January 2016, counsel filed initial briefs in *State v. Michael Beaty, Jr.*, Court of Appeals Case No. 2015-000718 and *State v. Preston Shands, Jr.*, Court of Appeals Case No. 2015-001199, both involving sentences of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. Also in January 2016, counsel filed a return to the State's petition for an extraordinary writ of *certiorari* in *Jerry Inmon v. State*, Supreme Court Case No. 2015-002634, a capital post-conviction relief case.

2) In February 2016, counsel filed a petition for writ of *certiorari* in *Charles Vandross v. State*, Supreme Court Case No. 2014-000650. Counsel filed a petition for

writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court of the United States in *Edward Dean & Nolan Brown v. Mark Keel in his official capacity*. Counsel was scheduled to defend a murder charge starting on Monday, February 29, 2016, *State v. Trey Brown*, Abbeville Case No. 2014-GS-01-0111, 0112. Although that case resolved the morning of trial, it involved complicated mental health issues and trips to DMH for a competency evaluation and a meeting with the client.

3) In March 2016, Counsel has filed a Brief in Opposition to the State's Petition for Writ of Certiorari in *South Carolina v. John Kennedy Hughey*, United States Supreme Court Case Number 15-880 and a Response to State's Motion to Expedite Petition for Extraordinary Writ in *Jerry Inmon v. State, supra*. Counsel is also preparing to resume the evidentiary hearing in *William O. Dickerson v. State*, Charleston County Cases Number: 2012-CP-10-3216, a capital PCR case on March 31 – April 1, 2016

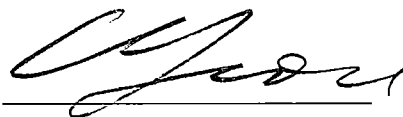
4) Counsel has completed review of the transcript, will block time to complete the brief, and will prioritize completing this brief.

5) This request is made in good faith and is not intended for delay. Counsel believes good cause exists for this extension request.

Mr. Johnson, therefore, respectfully requests this Court to extend time to file the petition for writ of *certiorari* until Monday, May 1, 2016.

IT IS SO MOVED.

Respectfully Submitted,

By 

E. Charles Grose, Jr.
The Grose Law Firm, LLC

404 Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
(864) 538-4466

Attorney for Petitioner

March 30, 2016
Greenwood, South Carolina

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I certify that I have served the Petition for Extension of Time to File Reply Brief, by placing a copy in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, on the date reflected below, addressed as follows:

J. Benjamin Aplin, Esquire
Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 11549
Columbia, SC 29211

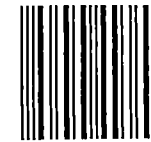

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Greenwood, South Carolina

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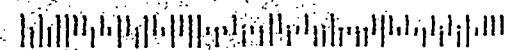
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The Honorable Jenny Abbott Kitchings
Clerk of Court, S.C. Court of Appeals
P.O. 11629
Columbia, SC 29211

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March 30, 2016

The Honorable, Jenny Abbott Kitchings
Clerk of Court, S.C. Court of Appeals
P.O. Box 11629
Columbia, SC 29211

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SC Court of Appeals

Re: *State v. Nakia Johnson*
Court of Appeals Case No. 2015-001436

Dear Ms. Kitchens:

Enclosed please find the original and six copies of Mr. Johnson's petition for an extension to file his initial brief and designation of matter to be included in the record on appeal. By copy of this letter to Mr. Aplin, I am serving the State of South Carolina.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions or require additional information.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours very truly,

E. Charles Grose, Jr.

cc: Mr. Nakia Johnson
J. Benjamin Aplin, Esquire