

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

---

ORIGINAL

Appeal from Lancaster County  
Brian M. Gibbons, Circuit Court Judge

---

RECEIVED

MAR 01 2017

SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

JOHN MARION GHENT, JR.,

APPELLANT

APPELLATE CASE NO. 2016-000643

---

MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME  
IN WHICH TO FILE THE INITIAL BRIEF OF APPELLANT  
AND DESIGNATION OF MATTER

---

Counsel for John Marion Ghent, Jr., respectfully requests a **final extension of nine (9) days, until March 10, 2017**, in which to file the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter in this case. **Counsel will make every effort to file the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter before the extension deadline.** This motion is made pursuant to the Order of the South Carolina Supreme Court dated March 18, 2009. In support of this request, counsel shows:

1. The initial brief of appellant and designation of matter are due to be filed with the Court today.
2. Counsel for John Marion Ghent, Jr. respectfully submits that extraordinary circumstances exist which warrant the granting of an additional extension of time. Given the

number of extensions previously granted and the order in which counsel attempts to manage his caseload, counsel hopes that no further extension requests will be required.

3. Next week, counsel will be participating as a trainer in the Public Defender 102 training. On February 28, 2017, counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the murder case of The State v. Tyrone Malcolm Benn with this Court. On February 24, 2017, counsel presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Criminal Law Seminar. On February 23, 2017, counsel filed the petition for rehearing in the case of The State v. Calvert Myers with this Court. On February 22, 2017, counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Tommy Lee Wiseman with this Court. On February 16, 2017, counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the murder case of The State v. Ahshaad Owens with this Court. On February 16, 2017, counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the murder case of The State v. Sylvester Keejuan King with this Court. On February 8, 2017, counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Lindell Davis with this Court. On February 1, 2017, counsel filed the brief of respondent in the case of Marshall Heath Collins v. The State with the Supreme Court. On February 1, 2017, counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Brian Terrell with this Court. On January 30, 2017, counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Jerod Swinton v. The State with the Supreme Court. On January 27, 2017, counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Robert Ware with this Court. On January 26, 2017, counsel filed the petition for rehearing in the case of The State v. Jalann Williams with this Court. On January 20, 2017, counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. David Ray Brown with this Court. On January 3, 2017, counsel filed the brief of petitioner in the case of The State v. Ryan P.

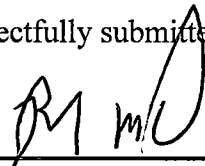
Deleston with the Supreme Court. **Counsel has extensive administrative duties as the Chief Appellate Defender, including administrative and Appellate Project oversight, and, training four less experienced appellate defenders and reading all of their writings.**

4. Counsel makes this request in good faith and not for purpose of delay. Counsel intends to continue to work on the cases with more than three extensions first so that the caseload will hopefully become more manageable in the near future, and less extensions will need to be requested.

5. Counsel for the Attorney General's office consents to this request shown by signature below.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned counsel would respectfully request a **final nine (9) day extension, until March 10, 2017**, in which to file the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in this case based upon the above exigent circumstances. **Counsel will make every effort to file the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter before the extension deadline.** Counsel respectfully requests that the time limits for filing the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter be held in abeyance pending a ruling on this motion.

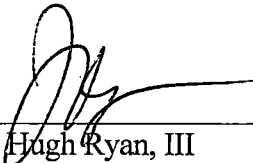
Respectfully submitted,



---

Robert M. Dudek  
Chief Appellate Defender

Attorney for Appellant

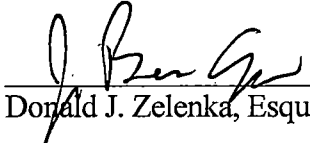


---

J. Hugh Ryan, III  
Executive Director/  
Hervey Young  
General Counsel

This 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017.

I consent:

*for*   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donald J. Zelenka, Esquire