

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

ORIGINAL

Appeal from Sumter County

George M. McFaddin, Jr., Circuit Court Judge

RECEIVED  
MAR 04 2019  
SC Court of Appeals

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

V.

MIKEL TERRELL FRANCIS,

APPELLANT

Appellate Case No. 2018-001415

PETITION FOR EXTENSION TO FILE  
INITIAL BRIEF OF APPELLANT  
AND DESIGNATION OF MATTER

The undersigned counsel respectfully requests a thirty day extension in which to file the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the above-referenced case. In support of this motion, counsel would respectfully show the Court the following extraordinary circumstances:

1. The initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in this case are due to be served and filed today.
2. Counsel is filing the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Reginald Hamilton with this Court today, March 4, 2019. Counsel has an oral argument in the case of The State v. Tekysha Cohen before this Court today, March 4, 2019. Counsel presented at the "Year End" CLE in Greenville, South Carolina on February 8, 2019. Counsel filed the petition for rehearing in the case of The State v. Ahshaad Owens with this Court

on February 7, 2019. Counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Nick Evangelista with this Court on February 6, 2019. Counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Varsheen Smith with this Court on January 30, 2019. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Stephen Wilhite v. The State with the Supreme Court on January 28, 2019. Counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Wayne Hankinson with this Court on January 25, 2019. Counsel filed the brief of petitioner in the case of Raphael Alexander Wooden v. The State with the Supreme Court on January 18, 2019. Counsel filed the brief of appellant in the case of The State v. Arsenio D. Colclough with this Court on January 14, 2019. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of William Zeigler v. The State with the Supreme Court on January 11, 2019. Counsel had an oral argument in the case of The State v. Devarous Parks before the Supreme Court on January 10, 2019. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Jed D. Wheeler v. The State with the Supreme Court on January 9, 2019. Counsel filed the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in the case of The State v. Stewart Middleton with this Court on January 8, 2019. Counsel filed the petition for writ of certiorari and accompanying appendix in the case of Jonathan A. Finney v. The State with the Supreme Court on January 4, 2019. **Counsel has extensive administrative duties as the Chief Appellate Defender, including administrative and Appellate Project oversight, and training two less experienced appellate defenders and reviewing all their filings in advance.**

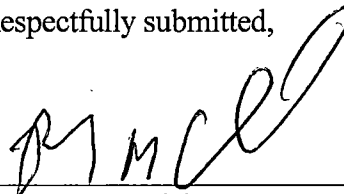
3. This request is made in good faith, and not for purposes of delay. Counsel intends to continue to work on the cases with more than three extensions first so that the caseload will

hopefully become more manageable in the near future, and less extensions will need to be requested.

4. Counsel for the state, Matthew Buchanan, graciously consents to or does not oppose this request.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned counsel would respectfully request a thirty day extension. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R M Dudek', written over a horizontal line.

Robert M. Dudek  
Chief Appellate Defender

March 4, 2019