

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

ORIGINAL

Appeal from Beaufort County
Carmen T. Mullen, Circuit Court Judge

THE STATE,

RESPONDENT,

v.

JUSTIN ELLIOTT WATTS,

APPELLANT

RECEIVED
MAR 04 2019
SC Court of Appeals

Appellate Case No. 2018-000708

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

Counsel for Justin Elliott Watts respectfully requests an extension of **thirty (30) days, until April 3, 2019**, in which to file the Initial Brief of Appellant and Designation of Matter in this case. 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. The Court has granted counsel three previous extensions.
2. Counsel for Justin Elliott Watts 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. 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,**

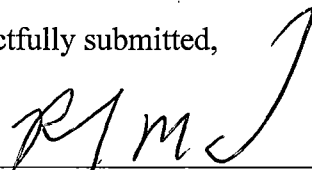
including administrative and Appellate Project oversight, and training two less experienced appellate defenders and reviewing all their filings in advance.

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.

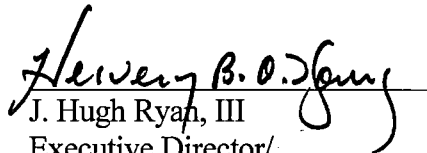
5. Counsel for the Attorney General's office consents to this request shown by signature below.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned counsel would respectfully request a **thirty (30) day extension, until April 3, 2019**, in which to file the initial brief of appellant and designation of matter in this case based upon the above exigent circumstances. Counsel requests that time limits for filing the brief be held in abeyance pending a ruling on this motion.

Respectfully submitted,




Robert M. Dudek
Chief Appellate Defender



J. Hugh Ryan, III
Executive Director/
Hervey B. O. Young
Deputy Director and General Counsel/
W. Lawrence Brown
Deputy General Counsel and Training
Director

This 4th day of March, 2019.

I consent:


J. Benjamin Aplin, Esquire