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S.C. SUPREME COURT

ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 2, 2021

The Honorable Patricia A. Howard
Clerk of Court, South Carolina Supreme Court
Post Office Box 11330
Columbia South Carolina 29211

Re: Kevin J. Mercer v. State of South Carolina
Appellate Case No: 2020-001419

Dear Ms. Howard:

Respondent's Return to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari in the above-referenced post-conviction relief appeal is due to be served and filed today. I am respectfully requesting a fifteen-day extension to serve and file this Return. This extension request is not intended for the purpose of delay, but rather, is necessitated by a heavy workload. Counsel for Petitioner, Kathrine H. Hudgins, Esquire has graciously consented to all extension request up to and including August 31, 2021.

Please let me know if I can provide the Court with any additional information on this matter in furtherance of this extension request.

Sincerely,

s/ Melody J. Brown

Melody J. Brown
Senior Assistant Deputy Attorney General
S.C. Bar No: 14244

MJB/abb

cc: Kathrine H. Hudgins, Esquire (via email only Khudgins@sccid.sc.gov)

In compliance with: *In Re: Extensions in Criminal and Post-Conviction Relief Cases*, (S.C. Sup. Ct. order dated March 18, 2009) (Davis Adv. Sh. No. 13 at 1).

Donald J. Zelenka
Deputy Attorney General