IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

QUENTERY GATES,

Petitioner,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Respondent.

On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari To the United States Court of Appeals For the Eleventh Circuit

Reply to Government's Brief in Opposition

W. MATTHEW DODGE
Counsel of Record
FEDERAL DEFENDER PROGRAM
101 Marietta Street, NW
Suite 1500
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 688-7530
Matthew_Dodge@FD.org

ARGUMENT

The government and Mr. Gates disagree on the legal questions presented here: Does Mr. Gates assert a *Johnson* claim here? Does his petition rely upon a rule made retroactively applicable to his collateral challenge? This Court need not decide these questions here, however, because the parties agree that Mr. Gates's case will become moot on January 31, 2018, when he is released from federal prison. That otherwise happy release is bittersweet because it must now spell the end of Mr. Gates's *Johnson* journey. This Court should deny Mr. Gates's *Petition for a Writ of Certiorari*.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. Matthew Dodge Counsel of Record Federal Defender Program 101 Marietta Street, NW Suite 1500 Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 688-7530 Matthew_Dodge@FD.org

January 9, 2018

 $^{^{1}}$ Brief in Opposition at 8.

² Brief in Opposition at 9.

³ Brief in Opposition at 16.