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April 17, 2018

Honorable Scott Harris
Clerk of the United States Supreme Court
1 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20543

RE: ***Keith Tharpe v. Eric Sellers, Warden***
Case No. 17-8344

Dear Mr. Harris:

Respondent Warden's counsel respectfully requests a 14-day extension for filing his brief in opposition to the petition for writ of certiorari. Respondent's brief is currently due in this Court on May 4, 2018. Undersigned counsel is currently assisting with discovery in two cases in state habeas —*David Homer Edenfield v. Eric Sellers, Warden*, Case No. 2014-HC-15 and *Lawrence Rice v. Eric Sellers, Warden*, Case No. 2014-HC-10—that has required the taking of approximately twenty depositions over the entire month of April. Additionally, undersigned counsel will be assisting in litigation regarding the execution of Robert Earl Butts that is currently scheduled for May 3, 2108. Finally, undersigned counsel will be on military duty with the United States Army Reserve for several days during the briefing time period.

Given these responsibilities, a fourteen day extension until May 18, 2018, would ensure that counsel for Respondent has adequate time to properly respond to Tharpe's petition for writ of certiorari. Opposing counsel has been consulted and they do not oppose the request.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Graham
Senior Assistant Attorney General

cc: Brian Kammer
Marcia A. Widder