

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Solicitor General

The Solicitor General

Washington, D.C. 20530

June 5, 2019

Honorable Scott S. Harris Clerk Supreme Court of the United States Washington, D.C. 20543

> Brandon Bernard v. United States, No. 18-6992 (Capital case), and

Christopher Andre Vialva v. United States, No. 18-1222 (Capital case)

Dear Mr. Harris:

The petitions for writs of certiorari in the above-captioned cases, both which seek review of the same court of appeals judgment, were filed on December 7, 2018 (Bernard), and March 19, 2019 (Vialva), and were placed on the Court's docket on December 11, 2018, and March 20, 2019. The government's responses to both petitions are currently due as extended on June 21, 2019.

We respectfully request, under Rule 30.4 of the Rules of this Court, a further extension in both cases to and including August 2, 2019, within which to file the government's responses. This extension is necessary to accommodate the schedule of Bernard's counsel, to keep the government's responses to both petitions due on the same date, and because the attorneys with principal responsibility for final preparation of the government's responses have been heavily engaged with the press of other matters before the Court.

Counsel for both Bernard and Vialva (who are co-defendants in this case) do not object to this further extension of time.

Sincerely,

Noel J. Francisco Solicitor General

cc: See Attached Service List

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