



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office of the Solicitor General

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The Solicitor General

Washington, D.C. 20530

October 2, 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 October 7, 2019.

We respectfully request, under Rule 30.4 of the Rules of this Court, a further extension in both cases to and including November 1, 2019, within which to file the government's responses. This extension is necessary because the attorneys with principal responsibility for final preparation of the government's responses have been heavily engaged with the press of other matters.

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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18-1222

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