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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CRIMINAL DIVISION
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January 2, 2019

By electronic submission and U.S. mail

The Honorable Scott S. Harris
Clerk of Court, Supreme Court of the United States
1 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: *Thomas v. Vannoy*, No. 18-6550

Dear Mr. Harris:

This Court has requested a response from the Respondent, Warden Darrel Vannoy, in this matter. The brief in opposition is currently due on January 10, 2018. Considering the length of the record, the complexity of the issues involved, the undersigned's other deadlines which he is required to meet, and the holiday break, the State requests an extension of thirty days in which to file its brief in opposition.

Among other deadlines, in December the undersigned was required to file an application for review (and, later in the same month, a reply) with the Louisiana Supreme Court in *State v. Serigne*, 2018-KK-1983. The *Serigne* case involves a request by the State to reinstate various sex-offense convictions committed by two brothers against three victims over the course of three decades. The undersigned is also one of the attorneys involved in the briefing and preparation for oral argument in *Langley v. Prince*, 16-30486, to be heard *en banc* by the Fifth Circuit on January 23, 2019.

The new due date would be February 11, 2018. I have spoken to Mr. Thomas's attorney of record and, as a professional courtesy, he has no objection to the requested 30-day extension.

JEFF LANDRY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Colin Clark
Assistant Solicitor General

cc: James Gordon Knipe III, Counsel for Petitioner