No. 19-\_\_\_

## IN THE

## Supreme Court of the United States

6.56 ACRES OF LAND, OWNED BY SANDRA TOWNES POWELL, ET AL., *Petitioners*,

\_\_\_\_

MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE, LLC, Respondent.

v.

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

## APPLICATION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE A PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

Christopher S. Johns *Counsel of Record* Christen Mason Hebert JOHNS & COUNSEL PLLC 14101 Highway 290 West Suite 400A Austin, TX 78737 512-399-3150 cjohns@johnsandcounsel.com

**Counsel for Petitioners** 

TO THE HONORABLE JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR., CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES AND CIRCUIT JUSTICE FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT:

Pursuant to Rules 13.5 and 30.3 of the Rules of this Court, petitioners respectfully request a 30-day extension of time to file a petition for a writ of certiorari from the final judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit entered on February 5, 2019.

1. The parties for whom extension is being sought are Karolyn Givens, James and Kathy Chandler, Georgia L. Haverty, Doe Creek Farm, Inc., Michael and Margaret Slayton as Trustees of the Margaret McGraw Slayton Trust, Dowdy Farm, LLC, Sizemore Incorporated of Virginia, Eagle's Nest Ministries, Inc., Bruce and Mary Beth Coffey, and Orus Berkley, who are the petitioners here.

2. The Fourth Circuit's opinion of February 5, 2019, is attached to this application. The decision is reported at *Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC v.* 6.56 Acres of Land, Owned by Sandra Townes Powell, 915 F.3d 197 (4th Cir. 2019). The Fourth Circuit's unpublished order of March 5, 2019, which denied petitioners' timely request for rehearing, is likewise attached to this application.

3. The Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §1254(1).

4. The petition is currently due on June 3, 2019. This application is being filed on May 21, 2019, more than 10 days before that date. If the application is granted, the new deadline for the petitioners to file their petition would be Wednesday, July 3, 2019.

5. The petitioners provide the following specific reasons that establish good cause for granting the application.

6. An unforeseen medical emergency for a key drafter of the petition is the reason for this request. Specifically, Ms. Hebert recently underwent emergency brain surgery while preparation of the petition was ongoing. Her surgery was thankfully successful, but Ms. Hebert will require an extended period of medical leave. Her absence has severely hampered undersigned counsel's ability to prepare and timely file the petition. Counsel has engaged additional outside resources to assist with the preparation of the petition in Ms. Hebert's absence; even so, those personnel require some additional time to get up to speed. Because of these circumstances, without the requested extension of time, counsel believes it would be impractical to present the Court with a well-argued petition demonstrating why certiorari should be granted.

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## PRAYER

For these reasons, petitioners pray for a 30-day extension of time to file a petition for a writ of certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit regarding its judgment entered on February 5, 2019. If granted, the requested extension would move petitioners' deadline to July 3, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

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Counsel of Record for Petitioners

May 20, 2019