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October 10, 2019

Via FedEx

Danny Bickell, Clerk Supreme Court of the United States 1 First Street, NE Washington, D.C. 20543

> Re: City of Flint, Michigan, et al., Petitioners v. Shari Guertin, et al., No. 19-205; Stephen Busch, et al., Petitioners v. Shari Guertin, et al., No. 19-350

Dear Mr. Bickel:

I represent the respondents in the above-entitled cases. The petitioners in both cases seek review from the same judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. See Guertin v. Michigan, 912 F.3d 907 (6th Cir. 2019), reh'g en banc denied, 924 F.3d 309.

These two petitions involve a ruling in one of the lead cases arising out of the Flint Water Crisis. Numerous other pieces of Flint Water Crisis litigation are pending in federal and state courts. See, e.g., In re Flint Water Cases, 384 F. Supp. 3d 802 (E.D. Mich. 2019); Mays v. Snyder, 916 N.W.2d 227 (Mich. App. 2018), appeal granted, 926 N.W.2d 803 (Mich. 2019).

The *Busch* petition (No. 19-350) was filed on September 13, 2019, following an extension. The brief in opposition is currently due on October 17. Pursuant to S. Ct. R. 30.4, I respectfully request a 60-day extension, so that our brief in opposition would be due on December 16.

The City of Flint petition (No. 19-205) was filed on August 14, 2019. The brief in opposition to that petition is currently due, after an extension, on November 4. I respectfully request an additional extension until December 16 to respond to the City of Flint petition in order to align the response deadlines for both petitions, so that we can file a single, consolidated response to both petitions. Absent an extension of time, respondents will be subject to two conflicting response deadlines.

There is good cause for the requested extensions. The United States District Court presiding over the consolidated Flint Water Cases has appointed mediators to facilitate discussions that seek to resolve the litigation. The Michigan Supreme Court recently entered a stipulated order extending briefing in *Mays*, *supra*, until December to give the parties space to engage in these discussions. We believe that a similar extension here would serve the interest of judicial economy and allow the parties to engage fully in the court-established mediation process.

Respondents make this request in good faith and not for purposes of delay or any other improper purpose. The requested extension will not cause undue delay nor result in undue prejudice to petitioners. In accordance with Supreme Court Rule 30.2, this request is being submitted within the periods sought to be extended.

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Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Paul T. Geske

One Respondents' Attorneys

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