

FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

Southern District of Florida

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Michael Caruso
Federal Public Defender

Location: Fort Lauderdale

Hector A. Dopico
Chief Assistant

Miami:

Helaine B. Batoff
Sowmya Bharathi
R. D'Arsey Houlahan
Supervising Attorneys

Bonnie Phillips-Williams,
Executive Administrator

Stewart G. Abrams
Abigail Becker
Elizabeth Blair
Anshu Budhrani
Katie Carmon
Vanessa Chen
Eric Cohen
Tracy Dreispu
Christian Dunham
Daniel L. Ecarus
Aimee Ferrer
Julie Holt
Sara Kane
Ashley Kay
Lauren Krasnow
Bunmi Lomax
Ian McDonald
Kathleen Mollison
Kirsten Nelson
Joaquin E. Padilla
Laura Sayler
Kathleen Taylor

Ft. Lauderdale:

Robert N. Berube
Bernardo Lopez,
Supervising Attorneys

Andrew Adler
Huda Ajlani-Macri
Janice Bergmann
Brenda G. Bryn
Timothy M. Day
Robin J. Farnsworth
Margaret Y. Foldes
Juan Michelen
Jan C. Smith
Gail M. Stage
Daryl E. Wilcox

West Palm Beach:

Peter Birch,
Supervising Attorney

Robert E. Adler
Lori Barrist
Scott Berry
Caroline McCrae
Kristy Militello

Fort Pierce:

Panayotta Augustin-Birch
R. Fletcher Peacock

March 30, 2020

Hon. Scott S. Harris
Clerk of Court
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, DC 20543

Re: *Charles Smith v. United States*, Case No. 19-7061
Motion for Delay of Distribution Date Due to COVID-19

Dear Mr. Harris:

I represent Petitioner in the above matter. The petition for a writ of certiorari in this case was filed on December 21, 2019. The government filed a brief of opposition on March 27, 2020. Distribution would normally occur on April 16, 2020.

Pursuant to this Court's Order of March 19, 2020, counsel requests that distribution in this matter be delayed until May 6, 2020. This request is based on the difficulties associated with COVID-19.

Petitioner will be filing a reply. However, due to COVID-19, the Federal Public Defender's Office for the Southern District of Florida has closed its physical offices, and its attorneys and staff are working remotely. There are new logistical hurdles related to the filing and mailing of paper copies. In addition, counsel must spend part of his day caring for two young children (both boys), due to the closure of their schools.

Counsel further notes that he has inherited this matter from the original counsel of record, Paul M. Rashkind, who retired from the Office after filing the petition. Accordingly, counsel has entered his notice of appearance today.

Counsel for respondent, the United States, does not oppose this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Caruso
Federal Public Defender

By: /s/ Andrew L. Adler
Assistant Federal Public Defender

Cc: Counsel for respondents, via e-mail

Miami

150 West Flagler Street
Suite 1500
Miami, FL 33130-1555
Tel: (305) 536-6900
Fax: (305) 530-7120

Ft. Lauderdale

One East Broward Boulevard
Suite 1100
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301-1842
Tel: (954) 356-7436
Fax: (954) 356-7556

West Palm Beach

450 Australian Avenue South
Suite 500
West Palm Beach, FL 33401-5040
Tel: (561) 833-6288
Fax: (561) 833-0368

Ft. Pierce

109 North 2nd Street
Ft. Pierce, FL 34950
Tel: (772) 489-2123
Fax: (772) 489-3997