

# FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER

Southern District of Florida

[www.fpdsouthflorida.org](http://www.fpdsouthflorida.org)

**Michael Caruso**  
**Federal Public Defender**

Location: Fort Lauderdale

**Hector A. Dopico**  
**Chief Assistant**

Miami:

March 30, 2020

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

**Bonnie Phillips-Williams,**  
**Executive Administrator**

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

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.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Caruso  
Federal Public Defender

Fort Pierce:

Panayotta Augustin-Birch  
R. Fletcher Peacock

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