

NO. \_\_\_\_\_

In the  
Supreme Court of the United States

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TONI SHARRETTTS COLLINS,

Petitioner

v.

WILLIAM ZOLNIER,

Respondent

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Appeal from the Supreme Court of Texas  
Cause No. 19-0795

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**APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO  
FILE PETITION FOR CERTIORARI  
TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT**

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*Pro-se*

Feb. 24, 2020

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**To the Honorable Samuel A. Alito, Jr., Associate Justice of the Supreme Court  
of the United States and Circuit Justice for the Fifth Circuit:**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2101(c) and Rule 13.5 of the Rules of this Court, Petitioner prays for a sixty (60) day extension of time to file her petition for certiorari in this Court to and including May 3, 2020.

On Oct. 13, 2017, the trial court granted a summary judgment, which is the decision sought to be reviewed. On May 30, 2018, the Ninth Court of Appeals of the State of Texas affirmed the trial court's judgment. On Dec. 6, 2019, the Texas Supreme Court denied Petitioner's petition for review. Petitioner's time to petition for certiorari in this Court expires March 6, 2020. This application is being filed more than 10 days before that time.

Copies of the opinion and orders referenced above are attached. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. § 1254(1).

This case involves whether a false statement in a judicial proceeding receives protection under the First Amendment if the defamatory statement bears no logical relationship to the judicial proceeding, is not a matter of public concern, is clearly expressed and is reasonably interpreted to damage the career and reputation *per se*. In the instant case, Respondent made express written *ex parte* defamatory statements to a bankruptcy trustee that the wife of the bankrupt's judgment creditor was a drug addict, cocaine dealer and that she had involvement in her husband's first divorce

proceedings, none of which were true, all of which were harmful *per se*.

This case presents important questions under the Constitution of the United States that were determined adversely to Petitioner by the court below in violation of the First Amendment protections. People cannot say whatever they want and get protection under the First Amendment judicial privilege if the statement has not a scintilla of logical relation to the judicial proceeding.

Petitioner at all times been represented herself *pro-se*. The requested extension is necessary because the final decision came down during the holidays. Then, in January and February, Petitioner suffered debilitating illness coupled with continuous high fever and was unable to work. Petitioner needs additional time to understand this Court's protocol and to perform the necessary legal research so that the questions may be properly framed and argued to this Court.

For these reasons, Petitioner respectfully request that an order be entered extending her time to petition for certiorari to and including May 3, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Toni L. Sharretts Collins  
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February 24, 2020  
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