



**GARTH DANO**  
**GRANT COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

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March 17, 2021

Scott S. Harris  
Clerk of the Court  
Supreme Court of the United States  
1 First Street N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: Chad Bennett v. Washington  
No. 20-1062

Good Morning:

The State of Washington applies to the Clerk of this Court for a thirty (30) day extension of time to file its Brief in Opposition to Petition for Writ of Certiorari.

Extension is necessary and warranted because of an unanticipated and prodigious workload increase within the office necessitated by the February 25, 2021 ruling of the Washington State Supreme Court in *State v. Blake*, No. 96873-0, 2021 WL 728382, at \*12 (Wash. Feb. 25, 2021) declaring simple drug possession under the Revised Code of Washington section 69.50.4013 unconstitutional. All pending charges must be dismissed, defendants incarcerated on simple possession only must be released, and prior convictions vacated. All paid legal financial obligations attributable solely to simple possession cases must be refunded.

Chief Deputy  
Edward A. Owens

Administrator  
Kaye Burns

Civil/Appellate Deputies  
Kevin J. McCrae  
Katharine W. Mathews  
Rebekah M. Kaylor

Criminal Deputies  
Chad A. Jenks  
Daniel C. Crawford  
Carlee A. Bittle  
Brandon K. Guernsey  
Peter M. Hibbard

District Court Deputies  
Caleb J. Nolta  
Corey D. Metzner  
Barbara G. Duerbeck  
Nicholas George  
Micaela R. Meadows

Investigator  
Daniel W. Dale

The time and office resources devoted to sorting through these various ramifications has impaired the State's ability to dedicate the attention necessary for assessment of and response to the issues raised in Mr. Bennett's Petition.

Sincerely,  
GRANT COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

*Garth Dano*  
GARTH DANO  
c: Lila J. Silverstein, Counsel of Record

GD:kwm