

OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL DEFENDER  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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November 5, 2020

Honorable Scott S. Harris  
Clerk  
Supreme Court of the United States  
1 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20543-0001

Re: *Melvin Whitehead v. United States of America*, Case No. 20-5278

Dear Mr. Harris:

The petition for a writ of certiorari in the above-captioned case was filed on August 28, 2020. The government sought and received one extension, making its response due on or before November 2, 2020. The government filed its response October 28, 2020. The next distribution date for IFP cases that falls 14 days after October 28, 2020 is November 12, 2020.

Pursuant to this Court's Order of March 19, 2020, Mr. Walker respectfully requests to delay distribution of his petition for writ of certiorari until the week of December 14, 2020, a delay of approximately 30 days. The delay is requested because due to the press of business resulting from the global pandemic, counsel has not taken any leave this year. In addition to her other matters, between October 28 and 30, counsel received responses from the government to three pending petitions for certiorari, including this one, as well a Ninth Circuit decision that necessitates a petition for rehearing. Counsel has leave scheduled the week of November 9, 2020 and November 23, 2020 to attend to family matters.

Counsel for the government does not oppose this delay.

Sincerely,

*s/ Peggy Sasso*  
PEGGY SASSO  
Assistant Federal Defender

CC: Office of the Solicitor General