



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS

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December 15, 2020

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

Re: *Elim Romanian Pentecostal Church, et al. v. Pritzker*, No. 20-569

Dear Mr. Harris:

On November 30, 2020, this Court directed Respondent Governor JB Pritzker to respond to the petition for a writ of certiorari in the above-captioned case by December 30, 2020. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 30.4, respondent respectfully requests a 30-day extension of time to January 29, 2021, to file his response. Counsel for petitioners oppose this request.

Petitioners challenge a restriction on the size of indoor, in-person religious gatherings that has not been in effect since May 29, 2020. The United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit affirmed the denial of petitioners' request to preliminarily enjoin the enforcement of that expired limit on June 16, 2020. *Elim Romanian Pentecostal Church v. Pritzker*, 962 F.3d 341 (7th Cir. 2020). More than four months later (and nearly three months after the Seventh Circuit denied petitioners' petition for rehearing en banc), on October 22, 2020, petitioners filed a petition for a writ of certiorari of that decision.

The extension requested by respondent is necessary due to current and recent work responsibilities held by Assistant Attorney General Priyanka Gupta, who will draft respondent's brief in opposition under my supervision. Specifically, on December 9, 2020, Ms. Gupta filed a reply brief in *Holmes v. Godinez*, Nos. 20-2236, 20-2709 (7th Cir.). In addition, during December 2020, she drafted multiple motions and other filings and reviewed trial court attorneys' filings in several matters, including *Cassell v. Snyders*, No. 20-1757 (7th Cir.); *Indiana Rail Road v. Illinois Commerce Commission*, 20-3129 (7th Cir.); *In re Brody S.*, No. 5-20-0039 (Ill. App. Ct.); and *State of Illinois ex rel. Raoul v. Elite Staffing, Inc.*, No. 2020-CH-05156 (Cook Cnty. Cir. Ct.).

Moreover, my work responsibilities and personal schedule also merit an extension. As the Solicitor General of Illinois, I devote substantial time to performing supervisory and administrative duties, including editing briefs in numerous appeals and helping attorneys prepare for oral argument. Additionally, I will be out of the office for much of the period between December 17, 2020 and January 1, 2021.

This is respondent's first request for an extension of time. It is not made for purposes of delay, but solely to ensure that respondent's interests are adequately protected. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jane Elinor Notz
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cc: Mathew D. Staver, Counsel for Petitioner