

February 8, 2021

Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General
Criminal Law Division
Appeals & Legal Services Section
16th Floor, Strawberry Square
Harrisburg PA 17120
(Phone) (717) 787-1401

Scott S. Harris, Clerk
United States Supreme Court
One First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20543

RE: *Donald Mitchell Tedford v. Pennsylvania*
Case No. 20-5795 (Capital Case)

Dear Mr. Harris:

By this letter and pursuant to Rule 30.4, Respondent, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, is respectfully requesting an unopposed extension of four additional days' time in which to file its brief in opposition to the petition for writ of *certiorari* in this capital case, from February 8, 2021 to February 12, 2021.

On September 16, 2020, Petitioner Donald Tedford filed his petition for writ of *certiorari* with the Court. The petition was docketed on September 24, 2020. Pursuant to Rule 15.3, the Respondent's brief in opposition was originally due to be filed on or before October 26, 2020. Respondent sought several extensions of this deadline due to Covid-19-related reasons as well as social unrest, and this Honorable Court graciously granted those requests and established a new filing deadline for the Respondent of February 8, 2021.

During the past week – and particularly during the last three days – undersigned counsel has experienced significant difficulty utilizing Westlaw's electronic legal research website, and more specifically, has experienced a much slower-than-normal processing of searches on the website. The reasons for these technological difficulties are unknown but the difficulties have slowed undersigned counsel's ability to complete the Respondent's brief in opposition. Because the Office of Attorney General has essentially closed its offices due to the Covid-19 pandemic, undersigned counsel is dependent on the use of Westlaw in his home office for the conduct of the legal research necessary for proper preparation of the Commonwealth's brief.

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In light of these circumstances, Respondent respectfully requests the Court to find good cause to extend the filing deadline for its brief in opposition to the petition for writ of *certiorari* by four additional days until February 12, 2021. Undersigned counsel has communicated with counsel for the Petitioner, Adam Cogan, Esquire and Attorney Cogan has graciously indicated that he and his client do not oppose this request.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

/s/WILLIAM R. STOYCOS
William R. Stoycos
Senior Deputy Attorney General

C: Adam B. Cogan, Esquire