

FEDERAL DEFENDER PROGRAM, INC.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
SUITE 1500, CENTENNIAL TOWER  
101 MARIETTA STREET, N.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

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February 24, 2021

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

Re: *Sealey v. Ford, Warden*, No. 20-6294

Dear Mr. Harris:

Pursuant to this Court's order dated March 19, 2020, petitioner in the above-captioned case, proceeding *in forma pauperis*, respectfully requests that the Court delay distribution of the petition for a writ of certiorari for 13 days. The petition is currently scheduled for distribution no earlier than March 4, 2021. If this Court were to grant the requested 13-day delay, distribution of the petition would occur no earlier than March 17, 2021. The conference date would then be April 1, 2021.

Petitioner requires the additional time to file his reply due to the logistical difficulties and dislocations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including the need to coordinate among separate law offices with staff operating remotely. Further, Petitioner is currently incarcerated. The Georgia Department of Corrections has temporarily suspended in-person legal visitation, creating challenges in communication between counsel and Petitioner.

Counsel for Respondent has authorized me to represent that Respondent does not object to the requested delay in distribution.

Sincerely,

*/s/ S. Jill Benton*

Counsel of record for Richard L. Sealey

*cc:*

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Georgia Office of the Attorney General  
State Department of Law  
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Counsel for Respondent