



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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February 25, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: *Kevin Francis v. Massachusetts*, No. 20-6731

Dear Clerk Harris:

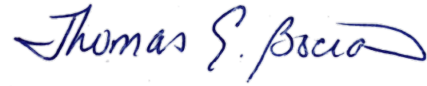
The Respondent has been asked by the Court to file a brief in response to the petition for certiorari in the above captioned case by March 8, 2021. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rules 15.3, 30.2, and 30.4, I respectfully request that the Respondent's deadline be extended by sixty days, to May 7, 2021. My request is based on the nature of the matter, the need for thorough review within the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, and the extent of my own professional commitments, as well as those of my colleague, Maria Granik, who will be working with me on this matter. Counsel for the Petitioner does not oppose this request for an extension.

The underlying state-court proceedings were not handled by me or by anyone in my office, but by a district attorney's office. Thus, becoming acquainted with all aspects of the proceedings will require a significant amount of time. Moreover, a Court-requested brief in response to a certiorari petition is rightfully given close scrutiny in my office. The brief in this case will be subjected to multiple rounds of thorough evaluation and revision by various attorneys at different levels. And while we will give this matter top priority, we are also responsible for handling a number of other matters, including federal habeas corpus actions with upcoming deadlines.

For the foregoing reasons, a sixty-day extension will enable my office to provide the Court with more thorough and helpful briefing. It will not prejudice any party. On behalf of the Respondent, I request that such an extension be allowed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

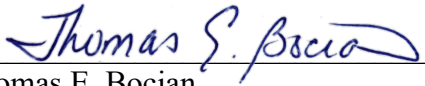
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas E. Bocian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Thomas E. Bocian
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*Counsel of Record for the Respondent,
the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to the Supreme Court's April 15, 2020 Order and by agreement of the parties, I hereby certify that, on the date set forth below, a true copy of the accompanying document was served by electronic mail to the Counsel of Record for the one other party to the case:

Jeffrey T. Green, Esq.
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1501 K Street, NW
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Counsel of Record for the Petitioner, Kevin Francis



Thomas E. Bocian
*Counsel of Record for the Respondent,
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Dated: February 25, 2021