



March 16, 2021

Danny Bickell, Esq.
Deputy Clerk for Practice and Procedure
Supreme Court of the United States
One First Street N.E.
Washington, D.C 20543

Re: Alberto Julio Garcia v. State of Mississippi, No. 20-7238 (Capital Case)

Dear Mr. Bickell,

I serve as counsel of record for Respondent the State of Mississippi in the above-captioned case. The Petition for Writ of Certiorari was docketed on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. Unless extended by the Court, Mississippi's responsive deadline is Friday, March 26. For the reasons that follow, and under Supreme Court Rule 30.4, I respectfully request an extension of thirty-one (31) days, to and including Monday, April 26, within which to file Mississippi's Response in Opposition.

On behalf of Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch, I have been working diligently to provide the Court with a complete Response in Opposition. An extension of time is necessary because I have a number of competing obligations within the coming weeks—including an evidentiary hearing in another capital post-conviction matter and the preparation attendant to it. The ongoing public-health crisis has also disrupted productivity.

This request is not made to cause undue delay or for any other improper purpose. I have contacted counsel for Petitioner Alberto Julio Garcia, who represented that he does not oppose this request. For these reasons, I respectfully request a thirty-one-day extension of time, to and including Monday, April 26, within which to file Mississippi's Response in Opposition.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Candice Leigh Rucker

Candice Leigh Rucker
Special Assistant Attorney General
Counsel of Record

Cc: Andre de Gruy, Counsel for Petitioner