

Patrick J. Ward
Lawrence E. King***
Constance N. Hofland**
John E. Ward++
Alyssa L. Lovas
Dennis R. Pathroff
Nathan J. Svihovec



ZUGER KIRMIS & SMITH, PLLP

Since 1909

316 North Fifth Street
P.O. Box 1695
Bismarck, ND 58502-1695
p: 701.223.2711
f: 701.223.9619
www.zkslaw.com

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September 3, 2021

21-218

Clerk, Supreme Court of the U.S.
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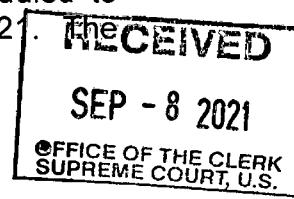
VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

RE: John Pietsch, et al, Petitioners v. Ward County, North Dakota, et al.
No. 20-1728

Dear Clerk:

My firm represents Respondents Ward County, a political subdivision of the State of North Dakota, and the Board of County Commissioners for Ward County, North Dakota. The Petition for a Writ of Certiorari in the above-entitled case was filed on August 12, 2021. The Respondents' brief in opposition to the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari is due on or before September 15, 2021. Pursuant to Rule 30.4 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, we request a thirty (30) day extension of time to file a brief in opposition to the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari.

I am not currently a member of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States and I acknowledge that the Respondents' Brief in Opposition must be filed by a Bar member. I have submitted an application for admission to the Bar of this Court and I am awaiting decision. I understand that the Court is currently in recess and that applications are only processed during limited times. Additionally, Counsel received the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari while on a family vacation. After counsel returned from vacation, counsel was unable to communicate with Clients' claims representative, who was visiting his sick mother out of state and subsequently attending her funeral. Upon the return of the claims representative, a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was scheduled to discuss the Petition. A subsequent meeting is scheduled for September 7, 2021.



undersigned anticipates appearing as counsel of record in the event that his admission is granted.

In light of the preceding and due to overlapping deadlines in state court matters, counsel would request a thirty (30) day extension of time until October 15, 2021 to file a brief in opposition to the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

John E. Ward