



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

CRAIG W. COSPER
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

(512) 936-1400
CRAIG.COSPER@OAG.TEXAS.GOV

October 25, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

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

**Re: *Ashley Mere Howard v. Texas*, No. 21-225;
Request for Extension of Time to File Brief in Opposition**

Dear Hon. Harris:

My Office, the Attorney General of Texas, represents the State of Texas in the above referenced appeal. On September 30, 2021, the Court asked the State to file a brief in opposition to Petitioner's petition for writ of certiorari—presently due to be filed on or before November 1, 2021. Pursuant to Rule 30.4, this is a request for a **30-day** extension of time, up to and including **Wednesday, December 1, 2021**, in which to file that brief.

An extension of time is needed because my Office was not involved in any of the state-court litigation below. Instead, the Harris County District Attorney represented the State, and recently requested the assistance of my Office for purposes of filing a brief in opposition. As a result, my Office has not yet had sufficient time to examine the record below as it relates to Petitioner's challenged Texas conviction. And absent such review, I am not yet able to determine the appropriate responses to the Questions Presented in the petition.

I contacted Randolph L. Schaffer, Jr., counsel of record for Mr. Uvukansi, on October 22, 2021—and Mr. Schaffer confirmed that he is **not** opposed to this requested extension. A copy of this letter will also be emailed to Mr. Schaffer.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

s/ Craig W. Cosper

Craig W. Cosper
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Appeals Division
P.O. Box 12548, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711-2548
Telephone: (512) 936-1400
Facsimile: (512) 936-1280

cc: Randolph L. Schaffer, Jr.
The Schaffer Firm
1021 Main, Suite 1440
Houston, TX 77002
noguilt@schafferfirm.com