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September 22, 2021

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Supreme Court of the United States
1 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20543

RE: *Chris Eugene Cosner v. United States of America*
No. 21-5657

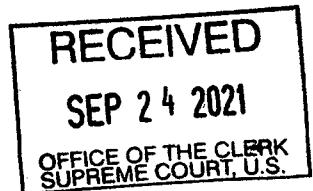
Dear Madam or Sir:

I was appointed to represent Mr. Cosner under the Criminal Justice Act to assist in filing a Petition for Writ of Certiorari. The United States Court of Appeal for the Fifth Circuit entered the Judgement on April 6, 2021. I read the Rules of the Supreme Court as well as the March 19, 2020 Order Regarding Filing Deadlines and April 15, 2020 Order Regarding Filings. After reading these Rules and Orders, it was my understanding and interpretation that on behalf of Mr. Cosner, I was to e-file his Petition for Writ of Certiorari by September 3, 2021. On June 28, 2021, I applied for an Electronic Filing System account at the Supreme Court in anticipation of this electronic filing. Exh. A, June 26, 2021 email.

On September 3, 2021, my assistant and I e-filed the Motion for Leave to Proceed in Forma Pauperis; Petition for Writ of Certiorari (with appendices); and the Proof of Service. I received an email confirming receipt. Exh. B, September 3, 2021 email.

After that weekend and two business days, when the e-filings did not receive a case number, we Federal Express mailed copies of these documents to the Clerk of the Court. It was not until after the hard copy of the documents were received that the pleadings were docketed with the Court. They were docketed September 9, 2021 (the date of my letter to the Clerk). Exh. C. September 9, 2021 correspondence.

I take full responsibility that my apparent misunderstanding of the rules caused these pleadings to be docketed September 9, 2021 instead of September 3, 2021. My reading of the Court's April 15, 2020 Order was that documents were to be e-filed (due to COVID safety issues); that for certain documents a single paper copy *may* be submitted; and that for other



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documents no paper form was to be submitted. However, my understanding of the Order was that any and all documents were to be e-filed.

It is likely due to my inexperience before this Honorable Court that I read the Order as I did. However, as an officer of the Court I state that I read all of the Rules and Orders as required, but still understood that September 3, 2021 e-filing Mr. Cosner's Petition for Writ of Certiorari (along with the other pleadings) was timely and in compliance with the Rules and Orders of this Court. I acted in good faith and certainly with no intention to delay justice.

Certainly my client, Mr. Cosner, should not be prejudiced by my apparent misunderstanding of the COVID Orders. In this he is without fault.

I pray you will consider this explanation and allow the Petition for Writ of Certiorari be considered by the Court on its merits.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,



Margaret Sams Gratz

MSG/tf

Enclosures

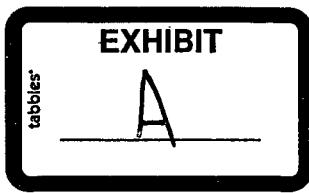
cc: The Honorable Brian H. Fletcher,
Acting Solicitor General of the United States (via email and U.S. mail)

Margaret Sams Gratz

From: efilingsupport@supremecourt.gov
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 11:56 AM
To: Margaret Sams Gratz
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Your Supreme Court Electronic Filing System account is ready for activation.

Dear Margaret Sams Gratz, Your recent application for an Electronic Filing System account at the Supreme Court of the United States has been approved. Please use the following link to activate your account. It will be valid for the next 48 hours.

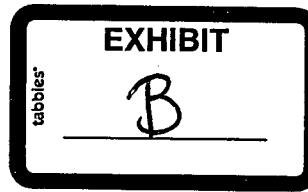
https://file.supremecourt.gov/User/activateaccount/_j89XbndpES9MePM17Alac65DvkOcO2w1DYKS6v3mGzh3dj8Q6Nd1vBlyq2B4JLc7OEIzbzuyXZjiF2p4G8AyQ-- If you are not expecting this email, please contact the Supreme Court Electronic Filing Support Group (eFilingSupport@supremecourt.gov).



Margaret Sams Gratz

From: efilingsupport@supremecourt.gov
Sent: Friday, September 3, 2021 2:30 PM
To: Margaret Sams Gratz
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Your Electronic Filing record has been submitted.

Your Petition for a Writ of Certiorari has been submitted. It will be reviewed once the hard copy is received. If you are not expecting this email, please contact the Supreme Court Electronic Filing Support Group at eFilingSupport@supremecourt.gov.



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September 9, 2021

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Supreme Court of the United States
1 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20543

RE: *Chris Eugene Cosner v. United States of America*

Dear Madam or Sir:

Enclosed please find ten (10) copies of the following which were electronically filed with the Court on September 3, 2021:

1. Motion for Leave to Proceed In Forma Pauperis;
2. Petition for Writ of Certiorari with three (3) Appendices; and
3. Certificate of Service.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

Margaret Sams Gratz

MSG/tf
Enclosures

EXHIBIT

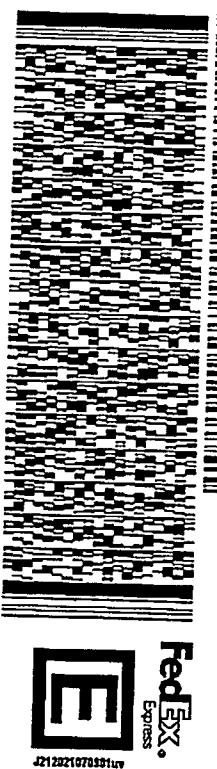
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