IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 21-___

THOMAS BUFFINGTON, Petitioner,

v.

DENIS McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Respondent.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I, Richard A. Samp, counsel for Petitioner Thomas Buffington, and a member of the bar of this Court, hereby certify pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 33.1(g) and (h) that this Petition for a Writ of Certiorari complies with the word limitations imposed by those rules. According to the word processing system used to prepare the brief (Microsoft Word), the word count of the brief is 8,993, not including the cover, table of contents, table of authorities, and signature block.

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Dated: January 3, 2022