



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

GUARDIAN AD LITEM

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O 919-890-1251  
F 919-890-1903

March 21, 2023

Honorable Scott Harris, Clerk of the Court  
Supreme Court of the United States  
1 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20543

Re: Request for Extension of Time to File Response to Petition  
*Courtney J., Petitioner, v. Beaufort County DSS, et al., Respondents*  
No. 22-6481

Dear Mr. Harris:

The undersigned represents the respondent juveniles in this matter on behalf of the North Carolina Guardian ad Litem Program. The petitioner filed her petition for writ of certiorari with this Court on 19 November 2022. On 6 March 2023, this Court ordered the respondents to file responses by 5 April 2023. Pursuant to Rule 30.4, the undersigned respectfully requests that the deadline for filing a response be extended by 30 days, until 5 May 2023.

This is the undersigned's first request for an extension of time and good cause exists for the requested extension. In addition to this case, the undersigned represents children in numerous pending appeals before North Carolina's appellate courts. As a result, the undersigned filed several briefs in February and March, and has several briefs and other filings due in March and April. Furthermore, shortly before this Court ordered the response in this case, a member of the undersigned's immediate family suffered a medical emergency that required surgery and caused the undersigned to miss significant work during the past several weeks, and the undersigned will continue to need to miss work to attend follow up appointments and additional procedures in the coming weeks.

Under the circumstances, the undersigned respectfully requests that the time for filing a response to the petition for writ of certiorari be extended by 30 days, until 5 May 2023.

Sincerely,

/s/ Matthew D. Wunsche

Matthew D. Wunsche  
NC GAL Appellate Counsel

cc: J. Edward Yeager, counsel for respondent Beaufort County DSS  
Benjamin Kull, counsel for petitioner Courtney J.

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