August 31, 2022

By Electronic Mail

Scott S. Harris Clerk of the Court Supreme Court of the United States 1 First Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20543-0001

> Sunoco Inc. (R&M), et al., v. Perry Cline, No. 22A188 Re:

Dear Mr. Harris,

Applicants provide this letter to inform the Court of recent developments in the district court in connection with this matter. Yesterday, after Justice Gorsuch ordered respondent Perry Cline to file a response to Sunoco's emergency application seeking to stay execution efforts pending resolution of its petition for certiorari, Sunoco filed a short notice with the district court informing it of that development and suggesting that the court stay today's deadline for producing wide-ranging asset information to give this Court time to act on the emergency application. See Ex.1. Cline, in turn, filed a response in which, among other things, he made the puzzling accusation that the relief Sunoco seeks from this Court—i.e., a stay or injunction temporarily preventing Cline from executing the money damages award—would somehow violate the First Amendment by imposing a "prior restraint" on the district court's "free speech." See Ex.2. A few hours later, the district court issued an order refusing to stay asset discovery for even a few days while this Court decides whether to grant that (obviously constitutional) relief. See Ex.3. Thus, as things now stand, Sunoco must comply with the magistrate judge's discovery order by the end of today.

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cc: Counsel for Respondent