In the Supreme Court of the United States

Bailie Bye, *Applicant*,

v.

MGM Resorts International, Incorporated, doing business as Beau Rivage Resort and Casino, Respondent.

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

APPLICATION FOR A 60-DAY EXTENSION OF TIME WITHIN WHICH TO FILE A PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

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December 15, 2022

TO: The Honorable Samuel A. Alito, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and Circuit Justice for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Applicant Bailie Bye respectfully seeks a 60-day extension of time within which to file a petition for a writ of certiorari to review the Fifth Circuit's judgment in this case, to and including February 25, 2023. Absent an extension, the deadline for filing the petition will be December 27, 2022. This application is being filed on December 15, 2022—more than ten days before the petition is due. In support of this request, the applicant states as follows:

- 1. On September 28, 2022, the Fifth Circuit entered judgment and issued its opinion, a copy of which is attached. This Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1254(1).
- 2. Between 2015 and 2019, Bailie Bye was employed as a waitress at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi. Ms. Bye alleges that, when she returned from maternity leave in March 2019, Beau Rivage failed to provide her with adequate lactation breaks, she was harassed on the job due to the lactation breaks that she did take, and she was retaliated against and ultimately forced to quit her job due to the casino's failure to allow her to pump breast milk.
- 3. Ms. Bye's complaint alleges that the lactation breaks that Beau Rivage afforded her "were sporadic." "The room was filthy, and [she] had to complain to make sure that the room was cleaned up so that the room was sanitary to pump." "Every time she needed a break [she] was questioned or told that she had to wait." Her "breast became engorged" because she "was not given regular breaks," leading to "unbearable pain at work." She was "told that she could not take a break until employees who had not taken their breaks yet had taken their breaks." As a result, she was only given her break "hours

past its required time." "Because of [her] pumps breaks," "co-workers began to harass" her. She was eventually "forced to leave her employment because she could no longer endure the harassment and physical pain from not being allowed to take her pump breaks."

- 4. Ms. Bye initially filed this action against Beau Rivage in the Circuit Court of Harrison County, Mississippi, alleging pregnancy discrimination and sex discrimination, harassment, and constructive discharge in violation of Title VII. The casino removed the case to federal district court, and the district court ultimately granted summary judgment to Beau Rivage, holding that Ms. Bye did not present sufficient evidence to support a prima facie case of disparate treatment, harassment, or constructive discharge under Title VII.
- 5. In addition to her Title VII claims, Ms. Bye asserted—for the first time in response to the casino's motion for summary judgment—that the complaint pled facts sufficient to make out a claim under a 2010 amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act, which requires employers to provide nursing mothers reasonable unpaid break time to express breast milk after the birth of a child. See Pub. L. No. 111-148, § 4207, 124 Stat. 119, 577-78 (2010). As amended, the FLSA requires employers to "provide . . . a reasonable break time for an employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for 1 year after the child's birth each time such employee has need to express the milk," and "a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by an employee to express breast milk." 29 U.S.C. § 207(R)(1)(A)-(B). Without addressing the merits, the district court rejected the FLSA claim as untimely and therefore not properly before the court. Ms. Bye appealed.

- 6. On appeal, Ms. Bye challenged the district court's dismissal of her Title VII claims on the merits and its dismissal of her FLSA claim as untimely. The Fifth Circuit (Jones, J.) affirmed. With respect to the FLSA claim, the court relied on circuit precedent holding that "[a] claim which is not raised in the complaint but, rather, is raised only in response to a motion for summary judgment is not properly before the court." Bye v. MGM Resorts Int'l, 49 F.4th 918, 925 (5th Cir. 2022) (quoting Jackson v. Gautreaux, 3 F.4th 182, 188 (5th Cir. 2021)). Judge Jones's opinion for the majority held that this Court's decision in Johnson v. City of Shelby, Mississippi, 574 U.S. 10 (2014), did not compel a different result. Id. at 926 ("Johnson is inapposite here for various reasons.").
- 7. Judge Ho concurred in the panel's decision to affirm dismissal of the Title VII claims but dissented with respect to the FLSA claim, reasoning that "the Supreme Court has made clear that plaintiffs need only plead facts—not legal theories." Id. at 929 (Ho, J., concurring in part and dissenting in part). In Johnson v. City of Shelby, he explained, "the Supreme Court summarily reversed our court for mistakenly requiring plaintiffs to plead legal theories as well as facts. The Court explained that [a] plaintiff . . . must plead facts sufficient to show that her claim has substantive plausibility.' It concluded that the complaint in that case alleged sufficient facts: 'Petitioners stated simply, concisely, and directly events that, they alleged, entitled them to damages from the city.' 'Having informed the city of the factual basis for their complaint, they were required to do no more to stave off threshold dismissal for want of an adequate statement of their claim.' So Johnson makes clear that 'it is unnecessary to set out a legal theory for the plaintiff's claim for relief." Id. (internal citations omitted).

- 8. Judge Ho further noted that "other circuits have interpreted Johnson similarly." Id. For example, he cited Koger v. Dart, 950 F.3d 971, 974 (7th Cir. 2020) (Easterbrook, J.), which held that, under Johnson, "[c]omplaints plead grievances, not legal theories," and so it didn't matter that a complaint "initially relied only on the First Amendment"—the plaintiff could still invoke the Due Process Clause "at later stages of the suit." Koger, 950 F.3d at 975. The Seventh Circuit recognized that the plaintiff "did not [even] need to amend the complaint to do so." Id.; see also Quinones v. City of Binghamton, 997 F.3d 461, 468 (2d Cir. 2021) ("[T]he complaint identifies a single cause of action for retaliation and does not similarly label a cause of action for discrimination. But this failure is not fatal here.") (following Johnson).
- 9. This case thus presents a square circuit split, as well as a recognized conflict between the decision below and this Court's precedent, over a frequently recurring and fundamentally important question of civil procedure: Where a plaintiff's claim pleads facts sufficient to plausibly allege a legal theory, may the plaintiff raise that legal theory for the first time in opposition to a motion for summary judgment?
- 10. Applicant respectfully requests a 60-day extension of time to file a petition for a writ of certiorari seeking review of the Fifth Circuit's ruling and submits that there is good cause for granting the request. Counsel of record, Deepak Gupta did not previously participate in this litigation and needs time to study the record, in consultation with the applicant and her counsel, to reach a final decision on whether to file a petition for certiorari. And, if a decision is made to file a petition, counsel requires additional time to prepare the petition. In addition, applicant's counsel and his colleagues will be heavily engaged with

other appellate matters, including arguments in the Washington Supreme Court in Spadoni v. Microsoft, No. 100634-9 (on January 24, 2023); in the Fourth Circuit in Opiotennione v. Bozzuto, No. 21-1919 (on January 26, 2023); in the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in Doucet v. FCA US LLC, No. SJC-13354 (on February 8, 2023); in the California Court of Appeals in Lanier v. Ford, No. B315114 (on February 9, 2023); and in the Ninth Circuit in Mills v. Target, No. 21-56308 (on February 10, 2023).

11. Applicant's counsel and his colleagues also have multiple briefs due: in this Court in Apple v. Cohen, No. 22A427 (on January 23, 2023), Lombardo v. City of St. Louis, Missouri, No. 22-510 (in January 2023), Cantero v. Bank of America, No. 22-529 (in January 2023), and Vidal, Under Secretary of Commerce and Director, Patent and Trademark Office v. Elster, No. 22A442 (in January 2023); in the Second Circuit in Darnis v. Raytheon, No. 22-2861 (on December 27, 2022); in the Fourth Circuit in Mohamed v. Bank of America, No. 22-1954 and City of Huntington v. Amerisourcebergen, No. 22-1819 (on January 3, 2023); in the Seventh Circuit in Samsung v. B.D., No. 22-80-20 (on December 19, 2022); in the Ninth Circuit in Anderson v. Intel, No. 22-16268 (on January 24, 2023); in the Eleventh Circuit in Louis v. Bluegreen, No. 22-12217 (on February 17, 2023); in the Washington Supreme Court in Spadoni v. Microsoft, No. 100634-9 (on December 19, 2022); in the Texas Supreme Court in LG Chem v. Morgan, No. 21-994 (on December 21, 2022); in the New Mexico Supreme Court in Sanchez v. United Debt Counselors, No. S-1-SC-39563 (on December 22, 2022); and in the California Court of Appeals in Liapes v. Facebook, No. A164880 (on December 22, 2022), Kielar v. Hyundai Motor Co., No. C096773 (on December 23, 2022), Montemayor v. Ford, No. B320477 (on December 28, 2022), and McCormack v.

Ford, No. G061849 (on February 9, 2023), and in *Aguilar v. Nissan*, No. B321733 (on February 13, 2023).

12. Extending the deadline to February 25, 2023, will allow the applicant's counsel sufficient time to reach a final decision on whether to file a petition, and to carefully research and prepare a petition if a decision is made to file.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the applicant respectfully requests that the Court extend the time within which to file a petition for a writ of certiorari in this matter to and including February 25, 2023.

Dated: December 15, 2022 Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Deepak Gupta, a member of the Supreme Court Bar, hereby certify that on December 15, 2022, a copy of the accompanying Application for a 60-Day Extension of Time to File a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit was sent by commercial carrier and by electronic mail to:

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Counsel for MGM Resorts International, Incorporated

All parties required to be served have been served.

December 15, 2022

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