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May 7, 2024

Via Electronic Filing

Honorable Scott S. Harris Clerk of the Court Supreme Court of the United States One First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: No. 23-1122, Free Speech Coalition, Inc. v. Paxton

Dear Mr. Harris:

Under Supreme Court Rule 30.4, Respondent Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton respectfully moves for an extension of time to file his response to the petition for a writ of certiorari in this matter.

The response is currently due May 16, 2024. Respondent requests a 30-day extension of time to file his response, which results in a new filing date of June 17, 2024.* This is Respondent's first request for an extension.

The extension is necessary because undersigned counsel has numerous briefing and argument obligations that will require significant time and attention, including:

- Oral argument before the en banc U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in *Wilson v. Midland County*, No. 22-50998, on May 15, 2024;
- Second chair for oral argument before the en banc U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in *United States v. Abbott*, No. 23-50632, on May 15;

^{*} Thirty days from May 16 is Saturday, June 15, so the new filing deadline would be Monday, June 17. *See* S. Ct. R. 30.1.

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- Oral argument before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in *Texas v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security*, No. 23-50869, on June 6;
- Appellant's opening brief in *Media Matters v. Paxton*, No. 24-7059, due in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on June 10;
- A brief in opposition in *Mendoza v. Lumpkin*, No. 23-1004, due in this Court on June 12.

Additionally, since the petition was filed, undersigned counsel filed a response to an application for an injunction pending appeal in this same matter, presented oral argument before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in *Texas v. SEC*, No. 23-60079, filed an amicus brief in *Wilson v. Midland County*, No. 22-50998 (5th Cir., en banc), and filed a supplemental, court-ordered brief in *Texas v. U.S. Department* of *Homeland Security*, No. 23-50869 (5th Cir.).

For these reasons, Respondent respectfully requests a 30-day extension of the deadline to file a response to the petition for a writ of certiorari, creating a new deadline of June 17, 2024.

Respectfully submitted.

<u>/s/ Aaron L. Nielson</u> AARON L. NIELSON Solicitor General *Counsel of Record*

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cc: Mr. Derek Shaffer (via e-mail) Counsel of Record for Petitioners