



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

December 14, 2023

By Electronic Filing and Overnight Delivery

Scott Harris, Clerk of the Court
Supreme Court of the United States
Office of the Clerk
1 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: *Gonzales v. Texas*, No. 23-5823

Dear Mr. Harris:

A response in this death penalty case is due December 15, 2023. The respondent respectfully requests a thirty-two-day extension of the present deadline. If granted, the response will be due January 16, 2024 (the day before is a federal holiday). The undersigned requests this extension because the undersigned's workload in providing appellate support to trial prosecutors, including in multiple cases where the State is seeking a death sentence, has significantly increased, preventing the undersigned from adequately preparing a response in the time allotted. This was also caused, in part, by time taken off by the undersigned for Thanksgiving, which fell during the current response period.

The respondent has previously sought one extension in this case. The present request is not sought for an improper purpose, including delay. The undersigned has conferred with the petitioner's counsel, Mr. Raoul Schonemann, who is not opposed to the requested extension. A copy of this letter will be sent to Mr. Schonemann. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Ottoway", written over a horizontal line.

Matthew Ottoway
Assistant Attorney General

Cc: Mr. Raoul Schonemann
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