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January 2, 2024

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

RE: *Atif Ahmad Rafay v. Eric Jackson*, No. 23-636

Dear Mr. Harris:

I am counsel of record for Respondent State of Washington in the above-captioned case. The Court has called for a response to the petition for certiorari and set the deadline for the Brief In Opposition as January 22, 2024. Pursuant to Rule 30.4, Washington requests a 30-day extension to file a brief in opposition, to February 21, 2024. Counsel for Petitioner does not object to this request.

The State's small team of attorneys that work on U.S. Supreme Court matters will be extremely busy with preparing for significant oral arguments in mid-January in the Washington Supreme Court and supervising and drafting briefing in several cases at the Washington Supreme Court during the next few months. The holiday season will also create difficulties as attorneys and staff have scheduled leave and childcare responsibilities. The extension will also allow time to incorporate a response, if necessary, to the amicus brief filed in support of the petition.

We do not believe that the extension will prejudice any party. The extension will still allow this Court to consider the petition well before the summer recess.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Peter B. Gonick

Peter B. Gonick
Deputy Solicitor General

cc: Eric Lindsay Robertson, Counsel for Petitioner