# In The Supreme Court of the United States

CARLOS E. MOORE, MUNICAPL COURT JUDGE

Applicant,

v.

## MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE,

	Respondents.
On Application for an Extension of Time to Certiorari to the United States Court of Ap	
<b>†</b>	

Justin Hansford, Esq.

Counsel of Record

Counsel for Applicant

Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights

Center at Howard University

School of Law

2900 Van Ness St. NW

Washington, DC 20016

Tel: (202) 806 8000 Email:

Justin.Hansford@law.howard.ed

u

To the Honorable Samuel Alito, as Circuit Justice for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit:

In accordance with this Court's Rules 13.5, Applicant Carlos E. Moore respectfully requests that the time to file its petition for a writ of certiorari be extended for an additional 30 days, up to and including Friday, June 14, 2025. The Mississippi Supreme Court issued its en banc opinion on January 16, 2025. The jurisdiction of this Court is based on 28 U.S.C. 1257.

#### Background

This case presents an important question implicating the First Amendment rights of judges and judicial ethics. Carlos E. Moore, former National Bar Association president and Mississippi judge, was permanently removed from the bench for online and television comments about racial injustice. The Mississippi Commission on Judicial Performance had requested Moore be removed from the bench and suspended for six years, in addition to a \$5,000 fine. The commission also recommended that the attorney receive a public reprimand.

The high court's decision, however, removed Moore from the bench permanently. The Mississippi Supreme Court found violations of ethical canons requiring judges to uphold the integrity of the judiciary, to promote confidence in the judiciary, to perform judicial duties without bias or prejudice, and to conduct extrajudicial activities without casting doubt on their capacity to act impartially.

A dissenting justice argued that Moore's statements were "discussions of broad public importance at best and ambiguous at worst." As a result, he would find them to be protected by the First Amendment, and he would dismiss the complaint. The case was detailed in the American Bar Association journal and other prominent publications.

### Reasons For Granting an Extension of Time

On April 8th, 2025, Applicant retained pro bono representation for the purposes of filing a petition for certiorari. This new counsel was not previously involved in litigating this case, and he requires additional time to familiarize himself with the trial and appellate records and to prepare the petition. This is also counsel's first case before the United States Supreme Court as counsel of record, and counsel has experienced a lack of clarity regarding the time and manner of presenting the application.

#### Conclusion

Applicant requests that the time to file a writ of certiorari in the above-cap-tioned matter be extended 30 days to and including June 14, 2025.

Dated this 16th day of May, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Hansford

 $Counsel\ of\ Record$ 

Counsel for Applicant

Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights

Center at Howard University School

of Law

2900 Van Ness St. NW

Washington, DC 20016

Tel: (202) 806-8000

Email:

justin.hansford@law.howard.edu