

No. 24A998

In The
Supreme Court of the United States

Ikechukwu Hyginus Okorie,
Petitioner,

v.

Kimberly R. Lentz, Trustee,
Respondent.

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE A PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI
OUT OF TIME (Sup. Ct. R. 13.5)

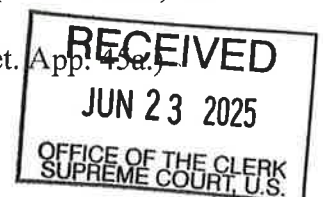
Petitioner **Dr. Ikechukwu Hyginus Okorie**, proceeding *pro se*, respectfully moves this Court for leave to file his accompanying Petition for Writ of Certiorari after expiration of the time prescribed by Rule 13.

I. Judgment and Dates Below

1. The United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit entered its unpublished opinion and judgment in *Okorie v. Lentz*, No. 24-60469, on **November 22 2024**.
2. The court denied rehearing *en banc* on **January 7 2025**; its mandate issued **January 15 2025**. (Pet. App. 1a, 13a.)

II. Original and Extended Deadlines

3. Under Rule 13.1 the petition was originally due **April 7 2025** (90 days from denial of rehearing).
4. On **April 30 2025** Justice Alito granted Petitioner's timely application (No. 24A998) for a single sixty-day extension, setting a new deadline of **June 6 2025**. (Pet. App. 43a.)



III. Extraordinary Circumstances Causing the Delay

5. Between April 30 and June 6 2025 Petitioner, a sole practitioner handling **eight concurrent civil actions** across four jurisdictions, faced a cascade of overlapping court-ordered filings (see Appendix A):
 - Sur-reply due **June 27 2025** in *Okorie v. Poncho*, No. 2:24-cv-52 (S.D. Miss.).
 - Two discovery-compel motions and meet-and-confer letters mailed **June 10 2025** in *Okorie v. FGH/Keystone*, No. 2:23-cv-190.
 - Texas Fifth-Court appellant’s brief due **May 30 2025**, No. 05-23-01300-CV.
 - Petition for rehearing and Rule 10(e) motion mailed **June 13 2025** in *Okorie v. Citizens Bank*, No. 2024-CP-00462 (Miss. Ct. App.).
6. Petitioner’s docketing system relies on PACER alerts. Because the Fifth-Circuit docket was marked “**TERMED**” after issuance of the mandate, no automatic reminders triggered for the extended cert deadline. Under the press of the deadlines above, Petitioner inadvertently failed to calendar June 6.
7. Upon discovering the lapse on **June 14 2025**, Petitioner immediately finalized, copied, and mailed the petition via USPS Priority Mail on **June 15 2025**—the first practicable business day.

IV. Legal Standard

8. Rule 13.5 authorizes this Court to grant leave upon a showing of “extraordinary circumstances.” The Court has recognized severe external pressures on *pro se* litigants as qualifying when the delay was promptly cured and respondent suffers no prejudice. *In re Clement*, 441 U.S. 901 (1979) (mem.).

V. Absence of Prejudice

9. Respondent has fully briefed the merits below; a brief delay will not prejudice her.

Should certiorari be granted, the ordinary briefing schedule affords ample time.

VI. Prayer for Relief

WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays that the Court grant this motion and direct the Clerk to file the attached Petition for a Writ of Certiorari out of time.

Respectfully submitted, Date: June 15, 2024



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Ikechukwu Okorie the undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing in the above-captioned proceeding has been served this day by Federal Express and or by certified U.S. mail, and email krlentz@gmail.com, paul.murphy@butlersnow.com, and upon the parties.

Kimberly R. Lentz
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Paul Murphy
BUTLER SNOW
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This 15th day of June, 2025.



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