

Capital Case

No. _____

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

DONALD ANTHONY GRANT,
Petitioner,

v.

MIKE CARPENTER, Interim Warden,
Oklahoma State Penitentiary,

Respondent.

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE TENTH CIRCUIT

**PETITIONER'S CORRECTED APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
TO FILE PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

PATTI PALMER GHEZZI, OBA # 6875 *
MICHAEL W. LIEBERMAN, OBA # 32694
Assistant Federal Public Defenders
Office of the Federal Public Defender
Western District of Oklahoma
215 Dean A. McGee, Suite 707
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
405-609-5975 (phone)
405-609-5976 (fax)
Patti_Ghezzi@fd.org
Michael_Lieberman@fd.org
ATTORNEYS FOR DONALD ANTHONY GRANT

September 17, 2018

* Counsel of Record

**PETITIONER'S CORRECTED APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OF
TIME TO FILE PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

*To the Honorable Sonia Sotomayor, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court
and Circuit Justice for the Tenth Circuit:*

In accordance with Rules 13.5, 30.2, and 30.3 of the *Rules of the Supreme Court of the United States*, and for the reasons set forth herein, Petitioner, Donald Anthony Grant, respectfully applies to this Court for an order extending the time in which to file his petition for a writ of certiorari from September 19, 2018, until November 19, 2018, a period of sixty (60) days. Petitioner e-filed an application on September 7, 2018. The Court received it September 11, 2018, but returned it because the lower court opinion and order denying rehearing were not appended. The opinion and order are appended to this corrected application. Petitioner states the failure to append the necessary attachments presents extraordinary circumstances under Rule 14(5) justifying this corrected filing less than ten days prior to the due date of the certiorari petition - September 19, 2018. In support of this Application, Petitioner shows the Court as follows:

BACKGROUND

Mr. Grant is incarcerated under a conviction of First Degree Murder for which he has been sentenced to death. On March 30, 2018, the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit issued a published opinion in Case No. 14-6131, wherein the circuit court affirmed the original judgment entered by the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma in Case No. CIV-10-171-F. *See* Opinion and Judgment, attached

hereto as Attachment A. Petitioner sought rehearing, which the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals denied on June 22, 2018. *See* Order, attached hereto as Attachment B.

ARGUMENT AND AUTHORITIES

Petitioner Donald Anthony Grant seeks a writ of certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit with respect to its decision rendered on March 30, 2018, as referenced above. This Court's jurisdiction to grant the same arises pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1254(1). According to Supreme Court Rule 13.3, a petition for writ of certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit is due on or before September 20, 2018. *See* Supreme Court Rule 13.3 ("the time to file the petition for a writ of certiorari...runs from the date of the denial of rehearing..."). However, the time granted by Supreme Court Rule 13 will be insufficient to allow Petitioner's counsel to do justice to the issues at hand, which are of vast import. Therefore, Petitioner seeks an extension of sixty (60) days in which to file his petition for a writ of certiorari. *See* Supreme Court Rule 13.5 ("[A] Justice may extend the time to file a petition for writ of certiorari for a period not exceeding 60 days").

In accordance with Supreme Court Rule 13.5, this Application is submitted at least ten (10) days prior to the present due date. Further, the requested extension is made in good faith and not for the purposes of delay. The requested extension is made because of the vital importance associated with the issues at hand. This matter centers around the right to a fair

and reliable sentence.¹ This Court has repeatedly emphasized that “our duty to search for constitutional error with painstaking care is never more exacting than it is in a capital case.” *Burger v. Kemp*, 483 U.S. 776, 785 (1987). It is respectfully submitted that counsel’s duty to present all authorized claims of constitutional error with painstaking care is equal or greater. Thus, it is important that counsel be granted additional time to research the constitutional issues at hand so that counsel may prepare Petitioner’s petition with the care and accuracy demanded of such cases.

Further, Mr. Grant’s counsel, Patti Palmer Ghezzi and Michael W. Lieberman, are Assistant Federal Public Defenders with the Capital Habeas Unit of the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Western District of Oklahoma. The division’s exclusive responsibility is to represent clients who have been sentenced to death in the state of Oklahoma and who have exhausted all of their state appeals. Both counsel are presently lead or co-counsel for the federal representation of multiple death row inmates including Mr. Donald Grant. Obligations on behalf of many of these clients have precluded counsel from being able to direct their full time and attention to the preparation of a petition of a writ of certiorari on behalf of Petitioner. Therefore, even if counsel exercise due diligence and give priority to preparing the petition, it will not be possible to file the petition on time without compromising each of the referenced clients’ cases.

¹ No execution date has been set. Thus, an extension of time will not create an unreasonable delay in the administration of justice.

In light of counsel's current obligations and the importance of the constitutional issues that will be presented in this capital case, counsel submit that a sixty (60) day extension is necessary and appropriate in order to efficiently and effectively prepare the petition for certiorari on behalf of Mr. Grant.

WHEREFORE, in the interest of justice and for good cause shown, counsel submit that a reasonable extension of time should be granted to complete Mr. Grant's petition. Counsel respectfully request this Court extend the current September 19, 2018 deadline until November 19, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Patti Palmer Ghezzi

PATTI PALMER GHEZZI, OBA # 6875 *
MICHAEL W. LIEBERMAN, OBA # 32694
Assistant Federal Public Defenders
Office of the Federal Public Defender
Western District of Oklahoma
215 Dean A. McGee, Suite 707
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
(405) 609-5975 Phone
(405) 609-5976 Fax
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