

XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



455 GOLDEN GATE AVENUE, SUITE 11000
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-7004

Public: (415) 510-4400
Telephone: (415) 510-3896
Facsimile: (415) 703-2552
E-Mail: Josh.Patashnik@doj.ca.gov

March 16, 2021

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

RE: Request for extension of time to file response to petition
Balbuena v. Cates
S. Ct. No. 20-1207

Dear Mr. Harris:

I am counsel for the respondent in this case. Petitioner filed his petition for a writ of certiorari on February 26, 2021. According to the online docket and pursuant to Rule 15.3 of the Rules of this Court, a response is currently due on April 1, 2021. Pursuant to Rule 30.4, respondent respectfully requests that the time for filing a response be extended by 30 days, making the response due Monday, May 3, 2021.

This is respondent's first request for an extension of time to file a response. Good cause exists for the requested extension. I did not represent respondent in this case in the district court or court of appeals, and thus require sufficient time to familiarize myself with the relevant legal issues and record. Apart from this case, I represent the State of California in several other matters that will require me to devote substantial amounts of time in the coming weeks. In addition, the response must be reviewed by multiple attorneys within the California Department of Justice. An extension of time would better enable preparation of a response that would be most helpful to the Court.

Accordingly, respondent respectfully requests that the time for filing a response to the petition for writ of certiorari be extended by 30 days, making the response due Monday, May 3, 2021. Counsel for the petitioner, David O'Neil, has informed me by email that petitioner consents to this request "on the understanding and expectation that the opposition brief would be filed on or before May 3."

March 16, 2021
Page 2

Sincerely,

/s/ Joshua Patashnik

JOSHUA PATASHNIK
Deputy Solicitor General

For XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General