



December 20, 2023

By Electronic Filing and Overnight Delivery

Scott Harris, Clerk of the Court
Supreme Court of the United States
Office of the Clerk
1 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: *Milton Dwayne Gobert v. Bobby Lumpkin*, No. 23-6139

Dear Mr. Harris,

A response in this death penalty case is due January 2, 2024. Respondent respectfully requests a thirty-day extension of the present deadline, up to and including February 1, 2024. This is Respondent's first request for an extension in this case. The extension request is not sought for an improper purpose, including harassment or unnecessary delay. Rather, the undersigned requires additional time because the records in Petitioner's case are voluminous and the undersigned—who was only recently assigned to the case—requires additional time to review them and formulate a response while managing the undersigned's other cases. Moreover, the Respondent's due date falls immediately after the winter holidays, during which time the Office of the Attorney General will be partially closed and the attorneys and staff working on this case have pre-planned vacations. The undersigned has conferred with Petitioner's counsel, Donna Coltharp, who stated that she was not opposed to this requested extension. A copy of this letter will be sent to counsel. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Knowles", is written over a horizontal line.

MOLLY KNOWLES¹
Assistant Attorney General

STEPHEN HOFFMAN
Assistant Attorney General

¹ Undersigned counsel will be eligible for admission to the Court in April. AAG Stephen Hoffman is admitted to the Court's bar.

CC: Donna Coltharp
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