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Honorable Scott S. Harris Clerk of the Court Supreme Court of the United States One First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: Angela Schuncey Richardson v. Krystle Reed Duncan, No. 24-1207

Dear Mr. Harris,

On May 22, Ms. Angela Richardson filed a petition for a writ of certiorari. Neither the respondent, who defaulted in the proceedings below, nor the Arkansas Attorney General, which defended the judgment in the Eighth Circuit as *amicus curiae*, filed a brief in opposition. On August 29, this Court requested a response; neither the respondent nor the Arkansas Attorney General replied.

Burnside v. Walters, No. 12-7892, presented similar circumstances. The respondent did not appear in the lower-court proceedings or respond to the petition for a writ of certiorari. The Clerk nonetheless distributed the petition and the Court granted certiorari. 569 U.S. 971, opinion after grant of cert., 569 U.S. 1016 (2013). The Court could likewise grant certiorari here, then appoint an amicus curiae to defend the judgment. See, e.g., Parrish v. United States, No. 24-275; see also Petition 21 n.3.

Moreover, another pending petition for certiorari, *Walton* v. *Nehls*, No. 25-131, raises a question presented based on the same division of authority among the courts of appeal discussed in Ms. Richardson's petition. In *Walton*, the respondent appeared and filed a brief in opposition. That case will likely be conferenced on October 10, 2025. This Court could reschedule consideration of Ms. Richardson's petition to that date, and consider the related petitions together.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Jo-Ann Tamila Sagar</u> Jo-Ann Tamila Sagar

Counsel for Petitioner

cc: All counsel of record