



Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL
CRIMINAL LITIGATION

March 12, 2025

Honorable Scott Harris
Clerk of the Court
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, DC 20543

VIA USPS FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Re: *Richard Gerald Jordan v. Mississippi*, No. 24-959

Dear Mr. Harris,

I am counsel for the Respondent, the State of Mississippi (“the State”), in the above-referenced case. Richard Gerald Jordan, a Mississippi death row inmate, filed a Petition for Writ of Certiorari with the Court on March 3, 2025. Absent an extension, the State’s response is due April 7, 2025. Pursuant to Rule 30.4, the State respectfully requests that the time for filing a response be extended by thirty days, making it due May 7, 2025.

The State needs more time to prepare an adequate response. This is the State’s first request for more time. Good cause exists for granting this request. Undersigned counsel’s competing obligations, deadlines, and assistance in other capital cases prevents her from completing the response before the current deadline. For example, undersigned counsel has pending motions to set execution and related pleadings in *Richard Gerald Jordan v. State*, No. 1998-DP-00901-SCT (Miss.), No. 2022-DR-01243-SCT (Miss.), No. 2024-DR-01272-SCT (Miss.) and *Willie Jerome Manning v. State*, 1995-DP-00066-SCT (Miss.), No. 2023-DR-01076-SCT (Miss.). Counsel also represents the State in two capital cases pending before the Fifth Circuit and the United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi—*Grayson v. Fitch*, No. 25-70001 (5th Cir.) and *Pitchford v. Cain*, No. 23-70009 (5th Cir.), 4:18-cv-2-MPM (N.D. Miss.).



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The requested extension is necessary to ensure the State has an adequate opportunity to review and respond to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari in light of counsel's other commitments. The requested extension will also better enable undersigned counsel to prepare a response that will be most helpful to the Court. Granting it will not prejudice Jordan. And it is not made in bad faith, to create delay, or for any other improper purpose.

Accordingly, the State respectfully requests a thirty-day extension of time, until May 7, 2025, to file a response to Jordan's Petition for Writ of Certiorari.

Sincerely,

/s/ Allison Kay Hartman
Allison Kay Hartman
Special Assistant Attorney General
Mississippi Attorney General's Office
Counsel for Respondent



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Allison Kay Hartman, certify that on March 12, 2025, I mailed a copy of this document via USPS first class mail to all parties required to be served. This letter was mailed to the following addresses:

Krissy Nobile and S. Beth Windham
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This, the 12th day of March, 2025.

LYNN FITCH
Attorney General of Mississippi

/s/ Allison Kay Hartman
Allison Kay Hartman
Special Assistant Attorney General
Mississippi Attorney General's Office
Counsel for Respondent