

CAROLYN A. QUATTROCKI
Chief Deputy Attorney General

LEONARD J. HOWIE III
Deputy Attorney General

CARRIE J. WILLIAMS
Deputy Attorney General

SHARON S. MERRIWEATHER
Deputy Attorney General

ZENITA WICKHAM HURLEY
Deputy Attorney General



JULIA DOYLE
Solicitor General

JER WELTER
Principal Deputy Solicitor General

PETER V. BERN
General Counsel

CHRISTIAN E. BARRERA
Chief of Staff

DANIEL J. JAWOR
Senior Assistant Attorney General

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL
CRIMINAL APPEALS DIVISION

ANTHONY G. BROWN
Attorney General

January 14, 2026

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

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

RE: *Eva Marie Gardner v. Maryland*, Certiorari Petition No. 25-5961
Unopposed request for extension of time to file Brief in Opposition

Dear Mr. Harris:

On October 22, 2025, Eva Marie Gardner filed a pro se petition for a writ of certiorari. On November 3, 2025, the State of Maryland, Respondent, filed a waiver of its right to respond to the petition. On November 12, 2025, the Court requested a response on or before December 12, 2025. On November 20, 2025, the Court granted Respondent's first request for an extension of time within which to file its response through January 26, 2026. Since the filing of the pro se petition, Mr. Peter A. Patterson of Cooper & Kirk, PLLC has appeared on the Court's docket as counsel of record for Ms. Gardner.

Following the Court's Rules 15.3 and 30.4, Respondent now respectfully requests a further 30-day extension of time within which to file its response through February 25, 2026. This extension is needed because, during the last week of 2025, undersigned counsel was stricken with both COVID and the flu, from which he is only now recovered. This has significantly delayed his work on the brief in opposition. As Respondent has stated previously, Ms. Gardner's petition (filed pro se at the time) raises Second Amendment claims that must be carefully examined for precise identification, preservation in the state courts, and overall merit. Since Respondent's first request for an extension of time, five amicus curiae briefs have been filed with Court, including briefs from a group of 12 United

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States Senators, from 24 States, and from several public interest organizations. Responding to Ms. Gardner's petition will now necessarily need to account for these amicus briefs, which purport to flesh out Ms. Gardner's contentions beyond the arguments in her pro se petition.

Ms. Gardner's newly-retained counsel, Mr. Peter A. Patterson, does not oppose this extension request.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Daniel J. Jawor

Daniel J. Jawor
Senior Assistant Attorney General
Bar No. 286203
(410) 576-6422
djawor@oag.maryland.gov

Counsel for Respondent

CC: Peter A. Patterson, Esq.
Counsel of Record

Cooper & Kirk, PLLC
1523 New Hampshire Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20036
ppatterson@cooperkirk.com
202-220-9600