

No. 25-6136

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

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DAMIEN ANTIONE JONES, PETITIONER

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI  
TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES

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D. JOHN SAUER  
Solicitor General  
Counsel of Record  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001  
SupremeCtBriefs@usdoj.gov  
(202) 514-2217

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Petitioner contends (Pet. 4-8) that he should be permitted to collaterally attack his conviction under 18 U.S.C. 924(c) and accompanying sentence notwithstanding a provision in his plea agreement waiving the right to challenge his convictions and sentence in any collateral proceeding, subject to certain exceptions that do not encompass his present challenge. This Court granted certiorari in Hunter v. United States, No. 24-1063, (Oct. 10, 2025), to consider, inter alia, the potential circumstances under which a defendant may appeal his sentence notwithstanding an appeal waiver in his plea agreement. Because the Court's decision

in Hunter may affect the proper disposition of the petition for a writ of certiorari, the petition in this case should be held pending the decision in Hunter and then disposed of as appropriate in light of that decision.\*

Respectfully submitted.

D. JOHN SAUER  
Solicitor General

JANUARY 2026

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\* The government waives any further response to the petition for a writ of certiorari unless this Court requests otherwise.