



Maricopa County Attorney

RACHEL MITCHELL

March 30, 2026

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

RE: **Request for extension of time to file a Response to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari in *Andrew D. Parker, et. al v. Bill Gates as a member of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, et. al.* Supreme Court Case No. 25-882**

Dear Mr. Harris:

I am the Civil Division Chief of the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, which is counsel for Respondents the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors in the above-referenced matter. I am admitted to the Supreme Court Bar and will be counsel of record for this matter.

On October 30, 2025, Petitioners requested a 60-day extension of time to file their Petition for Writ of Certiorari in this matter. Petitioners' request was granted and the deadline for their Petition was extended from November 19, 2025, to January 18, 2026. On January 16, 2026, Petitioners filed their Petition. On March 23, 2026, the Court ordered Respondents to file a Response to the Petition on or before April 22, 2026. Respondents now request a 60-day extension of time to submit their Response to the Petition. The requested extension would place the due date on Sunday, June 21, 2026. Because this falls on a weekend, Respondents are requesting that the Court extend the deadline for their Response to **Monday, June 22, 2026**.

Good cause exists to grant the requested extension. While this appeal concerns an award of attorneys' fees under Fed. R. Civ. P. 11, the underlying case which gave rise to this dispute concern election law and policy. The Maricopa County Attorney's Office's election law attorneys have handled this litigation throughout. During the month of April, those attorneys will be occupied handling candidate nomination petition challenge lawsuits in addition to their normal workload. In each of the past three election cycles, there have been between 50 and 100 such lawsuits. The filing deadline for challengers to file their challenges to candidates' nomination petitions is April 6, 2026, and the Respondents expect a similar number of challenges to be filed during this cycle.

Under Arizona law, these lawsuits must be fully litigated—including any appeals—in the span of about a month to ensure access to the ballot. During this month, counsel’s time is largely devoted to handling these cases and other work must be shifted around to accommodate the quick timelines. The requested extension is necessary to ensure that Respondents will not be prejudiced, and also to ensure that their counsel can prepare a sufficiently thorough Response to the Petition to be helpful to the Court.

Furthermore, there are no circumstances that necessitate an immediate ruling on the Petition and Petitioners would not suffer any prejudice from the extension. The merits of this case have been completely resolved, and the only issue remaining concerns Respondents’ attorneys’ fees award against Petitioners. The Respondents have not made any attempt to collect the fees awarded from Petitioners and will not do so during the pendency of this action. Accordingly, no aspect of the parties’ dispute over the fee award requires an immediate ruling. Besides, Petitioners requested, and were granted, a similar 60-day extension to file the Petition itself, signaling that they do not feel the consideration of this matter requires urgency.

Accordingly, Respondents respectfully request that their deadline to file a Response to the Petition for Writ of Certiorari be extended to Monday June 22, 2026.

Sincerely,

RACHEL MITCHELL
MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY



Thomas P. Liddy
Deputy County Attorney
Chief of the Civil Division
Counsel of Record for Respondents