

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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In the  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

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Mike Yoder, Drone Deer Recovery LLC, and Jeremy Funke,

*Petitioners,*

*v.*

Scott Bowen, in his official capacity as Director of the Michigan Department of  
Natural Resources,

*Respondent.*

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**On Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit**

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**APPLICATION TO THE HONORABLE BRETT M. KAVANAUGH,  
FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME WITHIN WHICH TO FILE  
A PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

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To the Honorable Brett M. Kavanaugh, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and Circuit Justice for the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals:

Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 13.5, Petitioners Mike Yoder, Drone Deer Recovery LLC, and Jeremy Funke, respectfully request a 30-day extension of time to file their Petition for a Writ of Certiorari in this Court, up to and including February 2, 2026.

### **RULE 29.6 CORPORATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Inspire Drone Technologies is the parent corporation of Petitioner Drone Deer Recovery, the business name of HLE Drones LLC. No publicly held corporation holds any stock in the Petitioner.

### **JUDGMENT FOR WHICH REVIEW IS SOUGHT**

The judgment for which review is sought is *Yoder v. Bowen*, 146 F.4th 516 (6th Cir. 2025). *See* Attachment A. The Sixth Circuit issued its Judgment on July 31, 2025. The Sixth Circuit denied Petitioners' Petition for a Rehearing on October 3, 2025. *See* Attachment B. A Petition for Certiorari is currently due January 2, 2026. This application for an extension of time is filed more than ten days in advance of that date.

### **JURISDICTION**

This case arises under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Specifically, Petitioners allege that the State of Michigan's ban on the use of unmanned aerial vehicles or "drones" to collect, transmit, and receive information about the location of animals killed in a hunt violates the First

Amendment right to create, disseminate, and receive information. This Court has jurisdiction over a timely filed petition for writ of certiorari in this case pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1254.

### **REASONS FOR GRANTING EXTENSION OF TIME**

Good cause exists for the requested extension. This case presents an important question about whether a government ban on non-political speech inputs or the creation of non-political speech must satisfy strict scrutiny. Below, the Sixth Circuit held that Petitioners' drones are not speech inputs meriting strict scrutiny because the drones do not create political speech. The Sixth Circuit's decision created a split with the Fourth and Ninth Circuits, which held that the First Amendment protects the means of acquiring and creating non-political speech, and that strict scrutiny applies to their prohibition. *Garcia v. Cnty. of Alameda*, 150 F.4th 1224, 1231 (9th Cir. 2025), and *People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Inc. v. N. Carolina Farm Bureau Fed'n, Inc.*, 60 F.4th 815, 828 (4th Cir. 2023).

Petitioners' undersigned Counsel of Record requires additional time to prepare the Petition due his workload. This includes a previous appellate reply brief, settlement discussions, motions in federal court, and other case responsibilities. Co-counsel's workload impacting the Petition also includes an appellate brief and litigation in state court. In addition, undersigned counsel's office will be closed for several days during the Christmas season prior to the Petition's due date, and several support staff will be unavailable. Counsel have additional professional and family obligations placing severe demands on their time.

## CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Petitioners request that the Court grant an extension of 30 days, up to and including February 2, 2026, within which to file a Petition for Writ of Certiorari.

DATED: December 17, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

A copy of this application was served via email and U.S. mail to counsel listed below in accordance with Supreme Court Rules 22.2 and 29.3:

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DATED: December 17, 2025.



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