

CASE NO. _____
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

James Darrick Beeler,)
)
 Petitioner,)
)
 v.)
)
 United States of America,)
)
 Respondent.)

Application to Justice Kavanaugh
for Additional Time to File a Petition
For a Writ of Certiorari to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals

Submitted on Behalf of Petitioner

Submitted By:

Tara R. Crane
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Attorney for Petitioner

To Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh:

Petitioner James Beeler, through his attorney of record, Assistant Federal Public Defender Tara R. Crane, requests an additional 60 days in which to file a petition seeking certiorari to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Specifically, Petitioner seeks an extension of time through September 11, 2026. He makes this request under Supreme Court Rule 13.5.

Jurisdiction

Petitioner is preparing to seek review of the judgment issued by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals on March 6, 2026, which affirmed a 10-year sentence imposed under 18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B). The Eighth Circuit had jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1291.

Before the Eighth Circuit, Mr. Beeler argued that he should not have been subjected to this 10-year mandatory minimum. In addition and in the alternative, he argued that the application of this penalty violated the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment. However, the Eighth Circuit rejected both of those arguments and affirmed Petitioner's sentence. Appendix at 1-7.

Mr. Beeler then filed a petition for rehearing, which was denied on April 14, 2026. Appendix at 8.

The deadline for filing a petition for a writ of certiorari in this case is July 13, 2026. *See* Supreme Court Rule 13.3. Petitioner files this request at least 10 days before the date the petition is currently due. *See* Supreme Court Rule 13.5.

Reasons for Application

Mr. Beeler asks this Court to extend the deadline because his case presents a complex issue of statutory interpretation implicating a deep and widening split amongst Circuits, as well as this Court's own due process jurisprudence. Given the complexity of the case, counsel requires more time to prepare a well-researched and polished petition worthy of this Court's consideration.

In addition, undersigned counsel is responsible for a significant criminal caseload in the Eastern District of Missouri and has been required to meet numerous other deadlines between the Eighth Circuit's decision and the current due date. The current demands on counsel's time may prevent her from preparing a competent and concise petition before the current deadline.

Wherefore, Petitioner requests leave to file a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari up to and including September 11, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Tara R. Crane

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