IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

G[redacted] D[redacted], Ph.D., *Applicant,*

v.

R[redacted] D[redacted], *Respondent.*

November 12, 2026

APPLICATION TO EXTEND THE TIME TO FILE A PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

To the Honorable Sonia Sotomayor, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and Circuit Justice for the Second Circuit:

Pursuant to Supreme Court Rules 13.5, 22, 30.2, and 30.3, and 28 U.S.C. § 2101(c), Applicant German Dziebel, Ph.D., respectfully requests a 60-day extension of time, to and including February 6, 2027, within which to file a petition for a writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court of the United States. Because February 6, 2027 is a Saturday, the petition would be due on Monday, February 8, 2027. See Sup. Ct. R. 30.1. Absent an extension, the petition is due on December 8, 2026. This application is filed more than ten

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days before that date, as Rule 13.5 requires. Applicant has not previously sought an extension of time in this matter.

JUDGMENTS BELOW

This matter arises from a judgment dissolving a marriage and entering custody and visitation orders. The decisions and orders for which review will be sought are:

1. **Supreme Court of Connecticut, denial of reconsideration.** *R.D. v. G.D.*, S.C. 250391, order of September 11, 2026 (App. A)
2. **Supreme Court of Connecticut, denial of certification.** *R.D. v. G.D.*, S.C. 250391, order of June 2, 2026 (App. B)
3. **Appellate Court of Connecticut.** *R.D. v. G.D.*, A.C. 47576, [___ Conn. App. ___ (2026)], argued November 17, 2025, officially released February 17, 2026, affirming the judgment of the trial court. (App. C)
4. **Superior Court, Judicial District of Middlesex.** *R.D. v. G.D.*, Docket No. MMX-FA-21-6030381-S, memorandum of decision and judgment of dissolution dated April 3, 2024 (Albis, J.). (App. D)
5. Copies of these decisions and orders, and of Applicant's motion for reconsideration, are included as Appendix E, as Rule 13.5 requires.

6. The Appellate Court decision appeared in *Connecticut Appellate Reports* (237 Conn. App. 737) and *Atlantic Reporter* (Third Series) (353 A.3d 31).

JURISDICTION

This Court's jurisdiction will be invoked under 28 U.S.C. § 1257(a), which authorizes review by writ of certiorari of a final judgment rendered by the highest court of a State in which a decision could be had, where a right or privilege is claimed under the Constitution of the United States. The Supreme Court of Connecticut is the highest court of the State in which a decision could be had in this matter, and its orders denied discretionary review.

Under Rule 13.1, a petition for a writ of certiorari is due within 90 days of the entry of the order denying discretionary review. Under Rule 13.3, when a petition for rehearing is timely filed in the lower court, or when the lower court appropriately entertains a petition for rehearing, the time to petition runs from the date of the order denying rehearing. Applicant filed his motion for reconsideration en banc on June 19, 2026.: The motion was filed within the time allowed by the Connecticut Practice Book, Section 17-5. The Supreme Court of Connecticut considered the motion and denied it by order dated September 11, 2026, without stating that it was untimely. The time to

petition therefore runs from the order denying reconsideration, and, as confirmed by the Clerk's Office, the petition is currently due on December 8, 2026. See Sup. Ct. R. 13.1, 13.3. With the requested 60-day extension, the petition would be due on February 6, 2027, which, because it is a Saturday, extends to Monday, February 8, 2027. See 28 U.S.C. § 2101(c); Sup. Ct. R. 13.5, 30.1.

FEDERAL QUESTIONS TO BE PRESENTED

Applicant intends to seek review of questions arising under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which protects a parent's fundamental liberty interest in the care, custody, and companionship of his children. See *Troxel v. Granville*, 530 U.S. 57 (2000) (plurality opinion); *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745 (1982); *Stanley v. Illinois*, 405 U.S. 645 (1972). The petition will present, in substance, these questions:

1. Whether the Due Process Clause permits a state court, in a dispute between parents, to eliminate a parent's contact with his children for an indefinite period, and to condition any restoration of contact on the other parent's written permission, without a determination, under a standard of proof commensurate with the interest at stake, that the parent is unfit or that contact would cause the children substantial harm.

2. Whether a court restricting a parent's contact on the ground of past abuse must weigh the risk of future harm from contact against the harm from continued separation, and consider less restrictive alternatives, including graduated and supervised reunification.
3. Whether a state appellate court may sustain such an order under deferential abuse-of-discretion review, and decline to reach the Fourteenth Amendment question as inadequately briefed, where the appellant invoked the Due Process Clause and argued that the order could not stand absent a showing of unfitness.

The federal questions were presented to the Supreme Court of Connecticut in Applicant's petition for certification (Questions 1 and 3) and in his motion for reconsideration en banc, and the Appellate Court addressed the unfitness and danger predicate in its opinion and declined to review any constitutional claim as inadequately briefed. App. C n.7. A draft petition has been prepared; the reasons below explain why additional time is needed to complete it.

REASONS JUSTIFYING AN EXTENSION OF TIME

Good cause exists for a 60-day extension for the following reasons.

1. **Applicant is self-represented.** Applicant is proceeding without counsel. The petition must conform to Rules 14 and 33, including the booklet format required of a petitioner who is not proceeding in forma

pauperis, a word limit of 9,000 words, tables of contents and authorities, an appendix with specified contents, and a statement under Rule 14.1(g)(i) of how and when each federal question was raised. Preparing a compliant petition, and having it professionally printed, takes more time than the present deadline allows.

2. **The record is substantial and spans several tribunals.** The trial lasted eleven days between February and December 2023 and was followed by a written decision, an appeal, a petition for certification, and a motion for reconsideration. The case also involves related proceedings that bear on the questions presented: a post-judgment motion for modification dismissed on September 22, 2025, which is the subject of a separate pending appeal, a criminal case against the Applicant dismissed on March 11, 2025 and a criminal case in which the Applicant successfully completed a Family Violence Education Program (FVEP) and in which a protective order expires on February 16, 2027. Accurately describing how the federal question was raised at each stage and presenting the relevant parts of this record requires careful review.
3. **The questions presented require additional research.** The petition raises a question that this Court has not resolved: what the Due Process Clause requires before a State eliminates a parent's contact with his children in a dispute between parents. Applicant

needs time to research how other state courts of last resort have treated the question, to confirm each citation, and, if possible, to obtain a legal review of the draft before filing.

4. **Competing obligations.** The Applicant is a self-represented plaintiff in three civil actions filed with the Superior Court, Judicial District of Stamford-Norwalk, at Stamford in the Spring of 2026, that arise from the family court proceedings: *Dziebel v. Perzin, Dornfried and Dziebel*, Docket No. FST-CV-26-5034105-S; *Dziebel v. Dziebel and Dornfried*, Docket No. FST-CV-26-5033913-S; and *Dziebel v. Humphrey*, Docket No. FST-CV-26-5034002-S. He also has hearings scheduled in the Superior Court on November 25, 2026 (family matter) and November 30, 2026 (civil matter), and a pending appeal (AC 49300) from the dismissal of his motion to modify. In addition, he is actively seeking full-time employment and is the primary support for his elderly mother, who recently moved to a nursing home and whose care requires his regular attention. These obligations fall in the weeks before the December 8, 2026 deadline and, together with the demands of preparing a petition in the required booklet format, make additional time necessary.

5. **No prejudice to Respondent.** The requested extension is modest and does not alter the existing orders, which remain in effect during the pendency of the petition. The extension will not meaningfully

delay the resolution of the matter. By contrast, the questions at stake concern a parent's fundamental relationship with his children, and the need for a properly prepared petition on that subject outweighs any interest in the more rapid disposition of an application for review.

CONCLUSION

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the time to file a petition for a writ of certiorari in this matter be extended for 60 days, to and including February 6, 2027.

Respectfully submitted,

German Dziebel, *Pro Se*

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Weston, Connecticut 06883

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Dated: November 12, 2026

APPENDIX

Appendix A: Order of the Supreme Court of Connecticut denying Applicant's motion for reconsideration en banc, S.C. 250391 (September 11, 2026)

Appendix B: Order of the Supreme Court of Connecticut denying the petition for certification to appeal, S.C. 250391 (June 2, 2026)

Appendix C: Opinion of the Connecticut Appellate Court, *R.D. v. G.D.*, A.C. 47576 (officially released February 17, 2026)

Appendix D: Memorandum of Decision, Superior Court, Judicial District of Middlesex, MMX-FA-21-6030381-S (April 3, 2024)

Appendix E: Applicant's motion for reconsideration en banc, S.C. 250391 (file-stamped copy showing the date of filing)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, German Dziebel, the Applicant in this matter and a person over the age of 18, certify that on November 12, 2026, in accordance with Supreme Court Rules 22.2, 29.3, and 29.5, I caused a copy of the foregoing Application to Extend the Time to File a Petition for a Writ of Certiorari, with its Appendix, to be served on each party required to be served, by [first-class mail, postage

prepaid / third-party commercial carrier for delivery within three days / email, by consent], addressed as follows:

Maria A. Dornfried, Esq.

Law Office of Maria A. Dornfried, LLC

99 Main Street, Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475

md@dornfriedlaw.com

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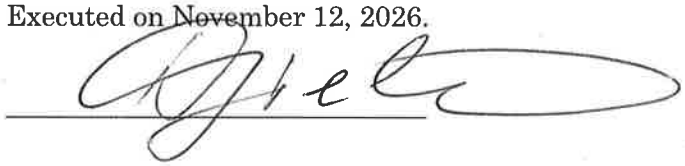
Office of Child Support Services, Dept. of Social Services

2081 S. Main St., Middletown, CT 06457

CS.MIDDLETOWN@jud.ct.gov

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on November 12, 2026.



German Dziebel

Logged-In User: German Dziebel (dziebelg) **E-Mail: dziebelg@gmail.com**

Order On Pre Appeal Motion for Reconsideration En Banc SC250397

Docket No: MMXFA216030381S
Issue Date: 09/11/2026
Sent By: Supreme/Appellate
My Tags:

Order On Pre Appeal Motion for Reconsideration En Banc SC250397
MMXFA216030381S R. D. v. G. D.

Notice Issued: **9/11/2026 1:39:36 PM**

Court Address:
Office of the Appellate Clerk
231 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Notice Content:

Motion Filed: 6/22/2026
Motion Filed By: Identity Protected - Petitioner/Movant
Order Date: 09/11/2026

Order: Other
Reconsideration is granted, but the relief requested is denied.

By the Court
Notice sent to Counsel of Record

Hon. Michael A. Albis

Clerk, Superior Court, MMXFA216030381S

SUPREME COURT

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PSC-250391

R. D.

v.

G. D.

ORDER ON PETITION FOR CERTIFICATION TO APPEAL

The defendant's petition for certification to appeal from the Appellate Court, 237 Conn. App. 701 (AC 47576), is denied

German Dziebel, self-represented, in support of the petition.
Maria A. Dornfried, in opposition.

Decided June 2, 2026

By the Court,

/s/
Peter D. Keane
Assistant Clerk - Appellate

Notice Sent: June 2, 2026
Petition Filed: April 13, 2026
Clerk, Superior Court, MMX FA21-6030381-S
Hon. Michael A. Albis
Clerk, Appellate Court
Reporter of Judicial Decisions
Staff Attorneys' Office
Counsel of Record

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
APPELLATE COURT

Date: Hartford, February 17, 2026

To the Chief Clerk of the Appellate Court.
The Appellate Court has decided the following case:

R. D.

v.

G. D.

Opinion by Clark, J.

Docket No. AC 47576
Trial Court Docket No. MMX-FA21-6030381-S

The judgment is affirmed.

Chief Judge

Rescript

Additional material from this filing is available in the Clerk's Office.