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Via Electronic Filing

Honorable Scott S. Harris
Clerk of the Court
Supreme Court of the United States
One First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20543

Re: No. 23-1155, *Priscilla Villarreal v. Isidro R. Alaniz, et al.*

Dear Mr. Harris:

In accordance with Supreme Court Rule 30.4, Respondent the State of Texas, respectfully moves for an extension of time to file a response to the petition for a writ of certiorari in this matter.

Petitioner filed a petition for a writ of certiorari on April 22, 2024. The Court requested a response on June 5, 2024, creating the deadline for the response on July 5, 2024. Respondent requests a thirty-day extension of that deadline, creating a new filing date of August 5, 2024.* This is Respondent's first request for an extension.

The extension is necessary because, since the Court requested a response on June 5, undersigned counsel for Respondent Texas has had numerous briefing obligations that require significant time and attention, including:

- Petitioner's brief on the merits in *In re Office of the Attorney General*, No. 24-0073, filed in the Supreme Court of Texas on June 5;
- Appellant's opening brief in *Media Matters v. Paxton*, No. 24-7059, filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on June 10;

* Because thirty days from July 5 is Sunday, August 4, the new filing deadline would be August 5. See S. Ct. R. 30.1.

- The reply in support of a petition for review in *Texas Department of State Health Services v. Sky Marketing Corp.*, No. 23-0887, filed in the Texas Supreme Court on June 10;
- The reply in support of a petition for review in *Paxton v. American Oversight*, No. 24-0162, filed in the Texas Supreme Court on June 11;
- Appellant's opening brief in *United States v. Paxton*, No. 23-50885, filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit on June 12;
- A brief in opposition in *Mendoza v. Lumpkin*, No. 23-1004, filed in this Court on June 12;
- Appellant's reply brief in *State v. Harris County*, No. 14-24-00290-CV, presently to be filed in the Texas Court of Appeals for the Fourteenth Judicial District on July 8; and
- A brief in opposition in *National Press Photographers Association v. Higgins*, No. 23-1105, presently due in this Court on August 5.

Apart from undersigned counsel, the only attorney who has previously represented Respondent has left the employ of the Office of Attorney General during the pendency of this petition. Although new counsel was promptly assigned, she has since suffered a death in the family. Texas has again assigned new counsel, but he will require additional time to review the record and briefs in this case to prepare the brief in opposition.

For the foregoing reasons, Respondent respectfully requests a thirty-day extension of the deadline to file the response to the petition for a writ of certiorari, creating a new deadline of August 5, 2024.

Respectfully submitted.

/s/ Lanora C. Pettit

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