IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

PETER BLACKMON,)
Appellant,)))
٧.)
ROBERT L. WILKIE, Secretary of Veterans Affairs,)))
Appellee.)

Vet. App. No. 18-3011

APPELLEE'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO APPELLANT'S BRIEF UNTIL MARCH 28, 2019

Pursuant to U.S. Vet. App. R. 26(b), Appellee, Robert L. Wilkie, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, respectfully moves the Court for a 45-day extension of time within which to respond to Appellant's Brief. If not for this motion, the Secretary's brief would be due on February 11, 2019.

The request for more time is being made because of Appellate Attorney's current deadlines and workload considerations in other cases pending before the Court, which precluded completion of Appellee's brief at this time, as well as additional time to review the procedural and substantive issues concerning this case in which the Appellant is proceeding *pro se*.

The *pro* se Appellant's position on this motion is unknown at this time.

Neither party has previously been granted any days of extension in the case thus far.

On behalf of the Secretary, counsel expresses regret to the Court and Appellant for any inconvenience caused by the delay in filing the Secretary's response. However, in view of the aforesaid circumstances, an extension of 45 days, until March 28, 2019, is requested.

WHEREFORE, Appellee Robert L. Wilkie, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, respectfully moves the Court for an extension of time to file a response to Appellant's Brief, until March 28, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES BYRNE General Counsel

MARY ANN FLYNN Chief Counsel

<u>/s/ Edward V. Cassidy, Jr.</u> EDWARD V. CASSIDY, JR. Deputy Chief Counsel

/s/ Angela-Marie C. Green **ANGELA-MARIE C. GREEN** Appellate Attorney Office of the General Counsel (027B) U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20420 (202) 632-6936

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY, under penalty of perjury of the laws of the United States of America, that on the 11th day of February, 2019, a copy of the foregoing was mailed via U.S. first class mail, postage pre-paid to the following:

Peter J. Blackmon 2816 West 75th St Indianapolis, IN 46268

<u>/s/ Angela-Marie C. Green</u> ANGELA-MARIE C. GREEN Counsel for the Secretary