

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT  
OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS**

**ANA T. RODRIGUEZ,**

Appellant,

v.

**ROBERT L. WILKIE,**

Secretary of Veterans Affairs,

Appellee.

Vet.App. No. 18-6780

**APPELLEE'S MOTION FOR A 45-DAY EXTENSION OF TIME,  
UNTIL NOVEMBER 14, 2019, IN WHICH TO FILE A  
RESPONSE TO APPELLANT'S BRIEF**

Pursuant to U.S. Vet. App. R. 26(b), and 27(a), Appellee, Robert L. Wilkie, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, respectfully moves this Court for an extension of time, until November 14, 2019, in which to file a response to Appellant's brief. If not for this motion, the Secretary's response would be due no later than September 30, 2019.

Additional time is required for Appellee to respond to Appellant's principal brief. Time spent on other cases during the past month, including participating in briefing conferences, and drafting and/or filing briefs, remand motions, and responses to an attorney fee application, necessitates this motion. The undersigned counsel has also been out of the office for several days due to illness. Therefore, additional time is necessary to complete Appellee's response to Appellant's brief.

Appellant has not been granted any extensions prior to this motion. The Secretary has not been granted any extensions for this action or in the case thus far.

Appellant is pro se.

**WHEREFORE**, in light of these circumstances, Appellee, Robert L. Wilkie, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, respectfully moves the Court for an extension of time, until November 14, 2019, in which to file a response to Appellant's brief.

Respectfully submitted,

**RICHARD J. HIPOLIT**  
Acting General Counsel

**MARY ANN FLYNN**  
Chief Counsel

/s/ James B. Cowden  
**JAMES B. COWDEN**  
Deputy Chief Counsel

/s/ Lavinia A. Derr  
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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that on September 26, 2019, a copy of the foregoing was mailed, postage prepaid to:

Ana T. Rodriguez  
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/s/ Lavinia A. Derr

**LAVINIA A. DERR**

Appellate Attorney