IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

GARY M. LAMBERT, Appellant,

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Vet. App. No. 19-2658

ROBERT L. WILKIE, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Appellee.

APPELLEE'S RESPONSE TO THE COURT'S OCTOBER 1, 2020, ORDER

Appellee, Robert L. Wilkie, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, hereby submits this response to the Court's October 1, 2020, Order, which directed the Secretary to respond to Appellant's Motion to Substitute Parties filed on September 16, 2020.

The Secretary advises the Court that the Anchorage Regional Office (RO) made a formal Agency determination on October 7, 2020, that Ms. Judith E. Lambert is an eligible accrued beneficiary as the surviving spouse of Gary M. Lambert. Accordingly, the Secretary does not oppose the September 16, 2020, Motion to Subsitute Parties.

WHEREFORE, Appellee, Robert L. Wilkie, Secretary of Veterans

Affairs, responds to the Court's October 1, 2020, Order and submits this

information for the Court's review and any action deemed appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM A. HUDSON, JR. Principal Deputy General Counsel

MARY ANN FLYNN Chief Counsel

<u>/s/ Carolyn F. Washington</u> CAROLYN F. WASHINGTON Deputy Chief Counsel

<u>/s/ Safiya L. Dixon</u> **SAFIYA L. DIXON** Appellate Attorney Office of General Counsel (027D) U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 811 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20920 (202) 632-6126

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