IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

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PATRICIA L. ROMERO, Appellant,

V.

DENIS MCDONOUGH, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Respondent. Vet. App. No. 19-3687

APPELLEE'S MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO APPELLANT'S APPLICATION FOR ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES

Pursuant to U.S. Vet. App. R. 26 and 27, Appellee, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, respectfully moves the Court a 30-day extension of time within which to respond to Appellant's application for attorney fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA). If not for this motion, the Secretary's response is due on or before May 24, 2021.

The additional time is needed due to significant workload and the need for supervisory review. The undersigned had, and continues to have, a high number of cases that require immediate attention.

Neither party has received any extensions in this phase of the litigation thus far.

On behalf of the Secretary, the undersigned apologizes for any inconvenience caused by the delay in filing the Secretary's response. However, in view of the above, the Secretary requests an additional 30 days to prepare and file his response to Appellant's application for attorney fees and expenses.

Appellant does not oppose this motion.

1

WHEREFORE, Appellee, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, respectfully moves the Court for a 30-day extension of time to file a response to Appellant's application for attorney fees and expenses until June 23, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD A. SAUBER Deputy General Counsel

MARY ANN FLYNN Chief Counsel

/s/ Christopher W. Wallace CHRISTOPHER W. WALLACE Deputy Chief Counsel

/s/ Ronen Morris RONEN MORRIS Appellate Attorney Office of General Counsel U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20420 (202) 632-4100