

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

CASE NO. OP 21-0395

L.B.
PLAINTIFF-APPELLANT,

V.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ET AL.
DEFENDANTS-APPELLEES.

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SECOND EXTENSION OF
TIME

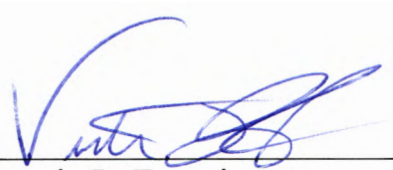
I, VICTORIA FRANCIS, having been first duly sworn upon oath, hereby
declare and state as follows:

1. Defendant-Appellee United States' Answering Brief in this matter was originally due November 15, 2021; following a first extension, is currently due December 15, 2021.
2. The United States seeks a second extension of time of two-weeks until December 29, 2021, in which to prepare, file, and serve Defendant-Appellee United States' Answering Brief.
3. The extension is necessary for additional time for the United States Department of Justice Civil Appellate Division and Torts Branch to review the brief before it is filed.

4. The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Montana has diligently worked to complete a draft answering brief and subjected it to internal review. However, because the United States has a unique substantial need to maintain uniformity in its litigation across the country, the brief must be reviewed by the Civil Appellate Division and Torts Branch. On Friday, December 10, 2021, the attorneys involved became aware that the United States Department of Justice offices in D.C. required additional time to complete their review. This motion for extension is being filed on the next business day.

5. Counsel for L.B. has no objection to this request.

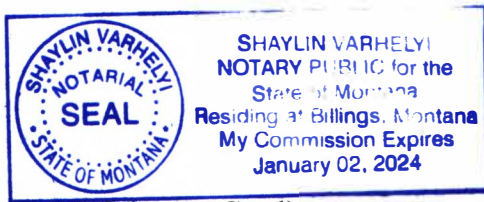
Submitted this 13th day of December, 2021.



Victoria L. Francis
Assistant U.S. Attorney
U.S. Attorney's Office

On this 13th day of December, 2021, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared VICTORIA L. FRANCIS, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that she executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal the day and year first above written.



(Notary Seal)

Shaylin Varhelyi
Notary Public for the State of Montana
Residing at Billings, Montana
My Commission Expires: 1-2-24