

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

COMMONWEALTH OF	:	
PENNSYLVANIA,	:	
	:	
Petitioner	:	
	:	
v.	:	No. 14 EM 2015
	:	
TERRANCE WILLIAMS,	:	
	:	
Respondent	:	

ANSWER OF THE GOVERNOR TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF PHILADELPHIA’S APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO REPLY TO ANSWERS TO EMERGENCY PETITION FOR REVIEW

The Honorable Tom Wolf, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by and through his undersigned counsel, hereby responds in opposition to the application of the District Attorney of Philadelphia (“District Attorney”) for leave to reply to the answers of the Governor and Respondent Terrance Williams to the “Emergency Petition for Review under King’s Bench Jurisdiction” originally filed by the District Attorney.

1. On February 23, 2015, the District Attorney sought leave of this Court to reply to the answers made by the Governor and Williams to the District

Attorney's petition asking this Court, on an emergency basis, to assume extraordinary jurisdiction (a) to review the decision of the Governor to exercise his constitutional authority to issue a reprieve to Williams; and (b) to invalidate the reprieve.

2. By letter dated February 24, 2015, the Court instructed the Governor and Williams to answer the District Attorney's application for leave to reply or to state that no answer would be filed.

3. Because the District Attorney's proposed reply simply repeats the arguments that he made in his original petition to this Court, the Governor respectfully asks this Court to deny the District Attorney's application for leave to file a reply to the answers of the Governor and Williams.

4. As the Governor stated in his answer, the District Attorney's original petition lacks merit under the Constitution of Pennsylvania, the laws of the Commonwealth, and the decisions of this Court and other courts, and thus should be summarily denied.

5. However, in the event that Court should decide in its discretion to assume extraordinary jurisdiction to consider the issues raised by the District Attorney, then the Court should (1) require the District Attorney to plead and present this issue in a procedurally proper manner, including stating a procedurally proper case against the Governor; and (2) after the matter is properly presented,

order full briefing and schedule oral argument to consider any issues that are properly presented to this Court.

WHEREFORE, the Governor respectfully requests this Honorable Court to deny the District Attorney's application for leave to reply to the answers of the Governor and Respondent Williams to the "Emergency Petition for Review under King's Bench Jurisdiction."

Respectfully submitted,

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