

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

ALLISON DAWN BLIXT and L.A. ZACCARI-BLIXT <div style="text-align: right;">Plaintiffs,</div>	:	
v.	:	
The UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE and MICHAEL R. POMPEO in his official capacity as Secretary, U.S. Department of State <div style="text-align: right;">Defendants.</div>	:	Civ. No. 1:18-cv-00124-EGS

UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE ANSWER

Defendants the United States Department of State and the Honorable Michael R. Pompeo, Secretary of State (“Defendants” or “the Government”) request that the Court extend Defendants’ deadline in this case to answer Plaintiffs’ Complaint.

In support of this request, Defendants state the following:

- 1) This is Defendants’ second non-joint motion to extend any deadlines in the case.
- 2) Defendants filed a motion to dismiss Plaintiffs’ Complaint on September 3, 2019. ECF No. 31. On May 15, 2019, this Court denied Defendants’ motion. May 15, 2019 Minute Order.
- 3) Under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, “unless the court sets a different time . . . if the court denies the motion or postpones its disposition until trial, the responsive pleading must be served within 14 days after notice of the court's action.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(a)(4). To Defendants’ knowledge, this Court has not set a different time to file a responsive pleading; therefore, Defendants’ answer appears to be due today, May 29.

- 4) Defendants have been preparing other documents that this Court has required in this case, including Defendants' initial disclosures, also due on May 29, and the parties' joint status report, due on May 31. Undersigned counsel also have concurrent obligations in other cases. Due to press of business in this case and other cases, Defendants request an additional seven days to file the answer.¹
- 5) Defendants conferred with counsel for Plaintiffs before filing this motion. Plaintiffs do not oppose the motion.
- 6) Defendants submit that this extension is not requested for the purpose of undue delay, and further submit that the schedule will not prejudice the conduct of the litigation.

Good cause, therefore, exists for Defendants' request. Accordingly, Defendants request that the Court extend Defendants' time to answer.

Dated: May 29, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH H. HUNT
Assistant Attorney General

ANTHONY J. COPPOLINO
Assistant Director

By: *s/ Vinita B. Andrapalliyal*
VINITA B. ANDRAPALLIYAL
LISA MARCUS
Trial Attorneys
United States Department of Justice
Civil Division
Federal Programs Branch
P.O. Box 868, Ben Franklin Station
Washington, DC 20044

¹ Undersigned counsel recognize that “[a]bsent extenuating circumstances, motions for a continuance or other scheduling change must be filed three business days prior to the scheduled hearing or other deadline.” Standing Order Governing Cases Before Judge Emmet G. Sullivan. Because of an oversight, undersigned counsel did not calendar the answer deadline and filed this motion as soon as they realized that Defendants needed additional time.

Tel: (202) 305-0845

Fax: (202) 616-8470

Email: Vinita.b.andrapalliyal@usdoj.gov

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OF STATE and MICHAEL R. POMPEO :
in his official capacity as Secretary, U.S. :
Department of State :

Defendants. :

Civ. No. 1:18-cv-00124-EGS

[PROPOSED] ORDER

Upon consideration of Defendants' unopposed motion to extend the deadline to file an answer, for good cause shown, it is HEREBY ORDERED that motion is GRANTED.

Date

Emmet G. Sullivan
United States District Judge