IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE AT NASHVILLE

STATE OF TENNESSEE v. LEROY HALL, JR.

Criminal Court for Hamilton County Nos. 188000 & 188001

No. E1997-00344-SC-DDT-DD



ORDER

On October 3, 2013, the State filed a Motion to Set Execution Date for Leroy Hall, Jr. The motion stated that Mr. Hall had completed the standard three-tier appeals process and that an execution date should therefore be set under Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 12.4(A).

On October 29, 2013, this Court appointed the Tennessee Post-Conviction Defender to represent Mr. Hall. On November 27, 2013, Mr. Hall filed a Motion for Extension of Time to File Response to State's Motion to Set Execution Date, citing counsel's heavy caseload and the need to obtain and review the trial, appellate, and collateral appeals records in the case. Mr. Hall requested until July 18, 2014, to respond to the State's motion to set an execution date. On December 5, 2013, Mr. Hall filed a Supplement to the Motion for Extension of Time to File Response to State's Motion to Set Execution Date, citing Mr. Hall's participation in a declaratory judgment action challenging the State's new lethal injection protocol, which is currently pending before the Davidson County Chancery Court in <u>West et al. v. Schofield et al.</u>, No. 13-1627-I (Davidson Chancery, filed Nov. 20, 2013). The declaratory judgment action is set for trial on July 7, 2014. Mr. Hall asserted that it is premature to set an execution date while the declaratory judgment action is pending, and asked the Court to deny the State's motion to set an execution date.

Mr. Hall's request that this Court deny the State's Motion to Set Execution Date before a response is filed is respectfully denied. However, recognizing the complexity and magnitude of the case, Mr. Hall's Motion for Extension of Time to File Response is GRANTED, in part, until March 24, 2014, in order to allow him to comply with Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 12.4(A). Mr. Hall is hereby ordered to file a response to the State's Motion to Set Execution Date that complies with Rule 12.4(A) on or before March 24, 2014. No further extensions will be granted.

PER CURIAM