

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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IN THE  
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

MICHAEL LANIER WATKINS,  
*Petitioner,*

*vs.*

STATE OF GEORGIA,  
*Respondent.*

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*On Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the  
Georgia Court of Appeals*

(Ga. Ct. App. No. A19A1853)

(Ga. Sup. Ct. No. S20C1071)

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**Motion for  
Leave to Proceed *in Forma Pauperis***

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*Counsel for Petitioner*

COMES NOW Michael Lanier Watkins, by counsel, and respectfully asks this Court for leave to file the attached petition for *writ of certiorari* without the prepayment of costs and to proceed *in forma pauperis* in accordance with Rule 39. In support whereof, he would show the Court as follows:

1. This is a direct appeal from a criminal conviction for involuntary manslaughter, which was affirmed on direct review by the Georgia Court of Appeals, with *certiorari* denied by the Georgia Supreme Court.

2. Below, undersigned counsel was appointed after trial pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 17-12-22 to -23, due to Petitioner's indigence.

3. Petitioner proceeded *in forma pauperis* before the Georgia Court of Appeals and before the Georgia Supreme Court.

Dated: December 28, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL LANIER WATKINS

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