

No.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

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MICHAEL LAWRENCE WOODBURY, PETITIONER

v.

STATE OF FLORIDA, RESPONDENT.

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*ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO  
THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA*

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**PETITIONER'S MOTION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS**

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CAREY HAUGHWOUT  
*Public Defender*

Mara C. Herbert  
*Assistant Public Defender  
Counsel of Record*

Office of the Public Defender  
Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida  
421 Third Street  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
(561) 355-7600  
appeals@pd15.org  
mherbert@pd15.org

The Petitioner, Michael Lawrence Woodbury, moves this Court, pursuant to Rule 39.1, Rules of the Supreme Court, to declare him indigent and allow him to proceed in forma pauperis in this cause, in particular to waive any filing fees. As grounds therefore, Petitioner says:

1. Petitioner applies for a writ of certiorari to review the decision of the Florida Supreme Court that resulted in the affirmance of his conviction and death sentence.
2. Petitioner was declared indigent for purposes of appeal. The state court below appointed the office of undersigned counsel for Petitioner as an indigent party pursuant to section 27.51(1)(f), Florida Statutes.
3. Federal law requires all courts of the United States to allow commencement and prosecution of any suit without prepayment of fees or costs upon the showing made above. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a).
4. Refusal to allow Petitioner to proceed in forma pauperis would deny him equal protection of the law, meaningful access to the courts, and due process of law because he cannot otherwise get the review to which a more affluent

defendant would be entitled. *See Burns v. Ohio*, 360 U.S. 252 (1959) (fees should be waived for discretionary appeal by indigent); *Smith v. Bennett*, 365 U.S. 708 (1961) (fees should be waived for indigent prisoner seeking state habeas relief).

WHEREFORE, Petitioner moves that this Court declare him indigent and allow filing and prosecution of his petition without payment of any fees or costs.

Respectfully submitted,

CAREY HAUGHWOUT  
Public Defender  
15th Judicial Circuit of Florida  
421 Third Street  
West Palm Beach, FL 33401  
(561) 355-7600



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Assistant Public Defender  
Counsel of Record  
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