

IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

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SEAGA EDWARD GILLARD,  
*Petitioner,*

v.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,  
*Respondent.*

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**On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari  
to the Supreme Court of North Carolina**

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**MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS***

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Petitioner, Seaga Edward Gillard, by and through his undersigned counsel, asks for leave to file the attached Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the Supreme Court of North Carolina without repayment of fees and costs, and to proceed *in forma pauperis*, pursuant to Rule 39 of the Rules of this Court.

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7A-451, the courts below appointed counsel for Mr. Gillard, who is indigent. The order appointing appellate counsel is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Respectfully submitted this the 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.



AMANDA S. ZIMMER\*  
ASSISTANT APPELLATE DEFENDER

AARON T. JOHNSON  
ASSISTANT APPELLATE DEFENDER

GLENN GERDING  
APPELLATE DEFENDER

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**APPOINTMENT OF APPELLATE COUNSEL IN A CAPITAL CASE  
BY THE APPELLATE DEFENDER**

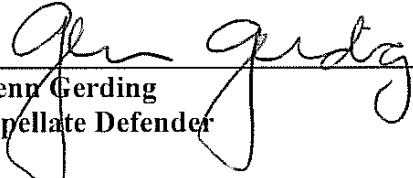
<b>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA</b>	)	<b>NC Supreme Court</b>
	)	<b>No: 316A19</b>
	)	
<b>v.</b>	)	<b>From Wake County</b>
	)	<b>16 CRS 5702</b>
	)	<b>16 CRS 223351</b>
<b>SEAGA EDWARD GILLARD</b>	)	

The Appellate Defender appoints the following attorney to represent Seaga Edward Gillard on appeal pursuant to Rule 2B.2 of the Rules of the Commission on Indigent Defense Services.

Aaron Johnson  
Assistant Appellate Defender  
123 W. Main St., Ste. 500  
Durham, NC 27701  
(919) 354-7210  
[Aaron.T.Johnson@nccourts.org](mailto:Aaron.T.Johnson@nccourts.org)

Mr. Johnson is appointed in the place of attorney Thomas Maher who was allowed to withdraw as co-counsel by the North Carolina Supreme Court on June 10, 2024. Mr. Johnson is to serve as co-counsel with Assistant Appellate Defender Amanda Zimmer who was previously assigned as counsel by the Appellate Defender.

This the 9th day of July, 2024.

  
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Glenn Gerding  
Appellate Defender

**FILING AND SERVICE:** This notice of appointment has been filed with the North Carolina Supreme Court, the Wake County Clerk of Superior Court, and served on the parties listed on the North Carolina Supreme Court docket for this case.