

NO. _____

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
OCTOBER 2017 TERM**

**THOMAS WHITAKER AND PERRY WILLIAMS,
Petitioners,**

versus

**BRYAN COLLIER, ET AL.,
Respondents.**

**On Petition for Writ of Certiorari to
the United States Court of Appeals
for the Fifth Circuit**

THIS IS A CAPITAL CASE

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*

Petitioners Thomas Whitaker and Perry Williams, by and through counsel, respectfully request leave to file the accompanying Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit without prepayment of costs and to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Petitioners have been indigent throughout all proceedings in these federal courts. An Affidavit of Indigency for each Petitioner is attached to this Motion.

Dated: December 4, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

**Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell &
Berkowitz, P.C.**

BY: /s/ Bobbie L. Stratton

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COUNSEL FOR PETITIONERS THOMAS
WHITAKER AND PERRY WILLIAMS

*Counsel of Record; Member, Supreme Court Bar

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am a member of the Bar of this Court; that I am counsel in this matter for Thomas Whitaker and Perry Williams; that on this day, December 4, 2017, I caused the foregoing Motion for Leave to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* to be served on opposing counsel electronically via e-mail delivery to:

Scott Keller
Solicitor General
scott.keller@oag.texas.gov

and that all parties required to be served have been served.

/s/ Bobbie L. Stratton

Bobbie L. Stratton*

*Counsel of Record; Member, Supreme Court Bar

**AFFIDAVIT OR DECLARATION
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS***

I, Thomas Whitaker, am the petitioner in the above-entitled case. In support of my motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*, I state that because of my poverty I am unable to pay the costs of this case or to give security therefor; and I believe I am entitled to redress.

1. For both you and your spouse estimate the average amount of money received from each of the following sources during the past 12 months. Adjust any amount that was received weekly, biweekly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually to show the monthly rate. Use gross amounts, that is, amounts before any deductions for taxes or otherwise.

Income source	Average monthly amount during the past 12 months		Amount expected next month	
	You	Spouse	You	Spouse
Employment	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Self-employment	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Income from real property (such as rental income)	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Gifts	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Alimony	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Child Support	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Retirement (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance)	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Disability (such as social security, insurance payments)	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Unemployment payments	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Public-assistance (such as welfare)	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Other (specify): _____	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>	\$ <u>↓</u>
Total monthly income:	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>

2. List your employment history for the past two years, most recent first. (Gross monthly pay is before taxes or other deductions.)

Employer	Address	Dates of Employment	Gross monthly pay
N/A			\$
			\$
			\$

3. List your spouse's employment history for the past two years, most recent employer first. (Gross monthly pay is before taxes or other deductions.)

Employer	Address	Dates of Employment	Gross monthly pay
N/A			\$
			\$
			\$

4. How much cash do you and your spouse have? \$
Below, state any money you or your spouse have in bank accounts or in any other financial institution.

Type of account (e.g., checking or savings)	Amount you have	Amount your spouse has
N/A	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

5. List the assets, and their values, which you own or your spouse owns. Do not list clothing and ordinary household furnishings.

☐ Home
Value N/A

☐ Other real estate
Value N/A

☐ Motor Vehicle #1
Year, make & model N/A
Value

☐ Motor Vehicle #2
Year, make & model N/A
Value

☐ Other assets
Description N/A
Value

6. State every person, business, or organization owing you or your spouse money, and the amount owed.

Person owing you or your spouse money	Amount owed to you	Amount owed to your spouse
N/A	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	\$ _____

7. State the persons who rely on you or your spouse for support. For minor children, list initials instead of names (e.g. "J.S." instead of "John Smith").

Name	Relationship	Age
N/A	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

8. Estimate the average monthly expenses of you and your family. Show separately the amounts paid by your spouse. Adjust any payments that are made weekly, biweekly, quarterly, or annually to show the monthly rate.

	You	Your spouse
Rent or home-mortgage payment (include lot rented for mobile home)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Are real estate taxes included? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
Is property insurance included? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
Utilities (electricity, heating fuel, water, sewer, and telephone)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Food	\$ _____	\$ _____
Clothing	\$ _____	\$ _____
Laundry and dry-cleaning	\$ _____	\$ _____
Medical and dental expenses	\$ _____	\$ _____

	You	Your spouse
Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc.	\$	\$
Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
Homeowner's or renter's	\$	\$
Life	\$	\$
Health	\$	\$
Motor Vehicle	\$	\$
Other: _____	\$	\$
Taxes (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
(specify): _____	\$	\$
Installment payments		
Motor Vehicle	\$	\$
Credit card(s)	\$	\$
Department store(s)	\$	\$
Other: _____	\$	\$
Alimony, maintenance, and support paid to others	\$	\$
Regular expenses for operation of business, profession, or farm (attach detailed statement)	\$	\$
Other (specify): _____	\$	\$
Total monthly expenses:	\$	\$

9. Do you expect any major changes to your monthly income or expenses or in your assets or liabilities during the next 12 months?

☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, describe on an attached sheet.

10. Have you paid – or will you be paying – an attorney any money for services in connection with this case, including the completion of this form? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, how much? _____

If yes, state the attorney's name, address, and telephone number:

11. Have you paid—or will you be paying—anyone other than an attorney (such as a paralegal or a typist) any money for services in connection with this case, including the completion of this form?

☐ Yes ☒ No

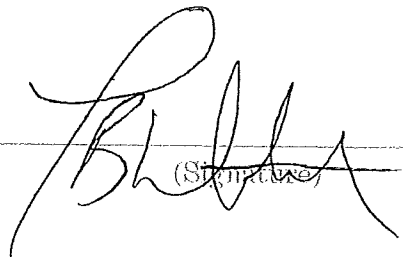
If yes, how much? _____

If yes, state the person's name, address, and telephone number:

12. Provide any other information that will help explain why you cannot pay the costs of this case.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: 22 December, 2017


(Signature)

**AFFIDAVIT OR DECLARATION
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS***

I, Perry E Williams Jr, am the petitioner in the above-entitled case. In support of my motion to proceed *in forma pauperis*, I state that because of my poverty I am unable to pay the costs of this case or to give security therefor; and I believe I am entitled to redress.

1. For both you and your spouse estimate the average amount of money received from each of the following sources during the past 12 months. Adjust any amount that was received weekly, biweekly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually to show the monthly rate. Use gross amounts, that is, amounts before any deductions for taxes or otherwise.

Income source	Average monthly amount during the past 12 months		Amount expected next month	
	You	Spouse	You	Spouse
Employment	\$ <u>None</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>None</u>	\$ _____
Self-employment	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Income from real property (such as rental income)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Interest and dividends	\$ <u>~~2500~~</u>	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Gifts	\$ <u>3500</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>3500</u>	\$ _____
Alimony	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Child Support	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Retirement (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Disability (such as social security, insurance payments)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Unemployment payments	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Public-assistance (such as welfare)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other (specify): _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total monthly income:	\$ <u>3500</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>3500</u>	\$ _____

2. List your employment history for the past two years, most recent first. (Gross monthly pay is before taxes or other deductions.)

Employer	Address	Dates of Employment	Gross monthly pay
N/A			\$
			\$
			\$

3. List your spouse's employment history for the past two years, most recent employer first. (Gross monthly pay is before taxes or other deductions.)

Employer	Address	Dates of Employment	Gross monthly pay
N/A			\$
			\$
			\$

4. How much cash do you and your spouse have? \$ _____
Below, state any money you or your spouse have in bank accounts or in any other financial institution.

Type of account (e.g., checking or savings)	Amount you have	Amount your spouse has
N/A	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

5. List the assets, and their values, which you own or your spouse owns. Do not list clothing and ordinary household furnishings.

☐ Home
Value N/A

☐ Other real estate
Value N/A

☐ Motor Vehicle #1
Year, make & model N/A
Value

☐ Motor Vehicle #2
Year, make & model N/A
Value

☐ Other assets
Description N/A
Value

6. State every person, business, or organization owing you or your spouse money, and the amount owed.

Person owing you or
your spouse money

Amount owed to you

Amount owed to your spouse

N/A

\$ _____

\$ _____

\$ _____

\$ _____

\$ _____

\$ _____

7. State the persons who rely on you or your spouse for support. For minor children, list initials instead of names (e.g. "J.S." instead of "John Smith").

Name

Relationship

Age

N/A

8. Estimate the average monthly expenses of you and your family. Show separately the amounts paid by your spouse. Adjust any payments that are made weekly, biweekly, quarterly, or annually to show the monthly rate.

You

Your spouse

Rent or home-mortgage payment
(include lot rented for mobile home)

\$ _____

\$ _____

Are real estate taxes included? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Is property insurance included? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Utilities (electricity, heating fuel,
water, sewer, and telephone)

\$ _____

\$ _____

Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)

\$ _____

\$ _____

Food

\$ _____

\$ _____

Clothing

\$ _____

\$ _____

Laundry and dry-cleaning

\$ _____

\$ _____

Medical and dental expenses

\$ _____

\$ _____

	You	Your spouse
Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc.	\$ _____	\$ _____
Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
Homeowner's or renter's	\$ _____	\$ _____
Life	\$ _____	\$ _____
Health	\$ _____	\$ _____
Motor Vehicle	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other: _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Taxes (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
(specify): _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Installment payments		
Motor Vehicle	\$ _____	\$ _____
Credit card(s)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Department store(s)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other: _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Alimony, maintenance, and support paid to others	\$ _____	\$ _____
Regular expenses for operation of business, profession, or farm (attach detailed statement)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other (specify): _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total monthly expenses:	\$ _____	\$ _____

9. Do you expect any major changes to your monthly income or expenses or in your assets or liabilities during the next 12 months?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If yes, describe on an attached sheet.

10. Have you paid – or will you be paying – an attorney any money for services in connection with this case, including the completion of this form? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, how much? _____

If yes, state the attorney's name, address, and telephone number:

11. Have you paid—or will you be paying—anyone other than an attorney (such as a paralegal or a typist) any money for services in connection with this case, including the completion of this form?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If yes, how much? _____

If yes, state the person's name, address, and telephone number:

12. Provide any other information that will help explain why you cannot pay the costs of this case.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: December 22, 2017

Perry E. Wright
(Signature)