

No. **25-5628**

ORIGINAL

Supreme Court, U.S.
FILED

MAR 31 2025

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

IN THE

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Stephen Shapiro & Kerry Barnes — PETITIONER
(Your Name)

VS.

Harbor Freight Tools USA, Inc. — RESPONDENT(S)

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*

The petitioner asks leave to file the attached petition for a writ of certiorari without prepayment of costs and to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

Please check the appropriate boxes:

☒ Petitioner has previously been granted leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* in the following court(s):

Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma

Supreme Court of the State of California

☐ Petitioner has **not** previously been granted leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* in any other court.

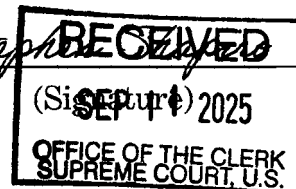
☒ Petitioner's affidavit or declaration in support of this motion is attached hereto.

☐ Petitioner's affidavit or declaration is **not** attached because the court below appointed counsel in the current proceeding, and:

☐ The appointment was made under the following provision of law: _____

_____, or

☐ a copy of the order of appointment is appended.



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

I, Stephen Shapiro, 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>N/A</u>	\$ <u>4,000</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>4,000</u>
Self-employment	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Income from real property (such as rental income)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Gifts	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Alimony	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Child Support	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Retirement (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Disability (such as social security, insurance payments)	\$ <u>1,100</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>1,100</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Unemployment payments	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Public-assistance (such as welfare)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Other (specify): _____	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Total monthly income:	\$ <u>1,100</u>	\$ <u>4,000</u>	\$ <u>1,100</u>	\$ <u>4,000</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	N/A	N/A	\$ N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ N/A
N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 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
Keegan & Coppin	1355 N. Dutton Ave.	06/12/24 -	\$ 5,000
Merlone Geier Partners	5800 Northgate Drive	06/2017-02/2024	\$ 6,700
			\$

4. How much cash do you and your spouse have? \$ 0.00

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
Green Dot	\$ 20.00	\$ 0.00
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

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 \$130,000

☒ Motor Vehicle #1
Year, make & model 2000 Ford F250
Value \$500.

☒ Motor Vehicle #2
Year, make & model 2010 Lincoln Navigator
Value 1,500

☐ Other assets
Description N/A
Value N/A

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: March 29, 2025 , 20____

Stephen Shapiro
(Signature)

No. 25-5628 **ORIGINAL**

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(Your Name)

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Please check the appropriate boxes:

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Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma

Supreme Court of the State of California

☐ Petitioner has **not** previously been granted leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* in any other court.

☒ Petitioner's affidavit or declaration in support of this motion is attached hereto.

☐ Petitioner's affidavit or declaration is **not** attached because the court below appointed counsel in the current proceeding, and:

☐ The appointment was made under the following provision of law: _____, or

☐ a copy of the order of appointment is appended.

Kerry Barnes
Type text here (Signature)

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

I, Kerry Barnes, 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>4,000</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>4,000</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Self-employment	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Income from real property (such as rental income)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Gifts	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Alimony	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Child Support	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Retirement (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Disability (such as social security, insurance payments)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>1,100</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>1,100</u>
Unemployment payments	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Public-assistance (such as welfare)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Other (specify): _____	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Total monthly income:	\$ <u>4,000</u>	\$ <u>1,100</u>	\$ <u>4,000</u>	\$ <u>1,100</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
Keegan & Coppin Co, Inc.	1355 N. Dutton Ave.	06/12/14-	\$ 5,000
Merlone Geier Partners	5800 Northgate Drive	06/2017-02/2024	\$ 6,700
			\$

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	N/A	N/A	\$ N/A
			\$
			\$

4. How much cash do you and your spouse have? \$ 0.00

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
Green Dot	\$ 0.00	\$ 20.00
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

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 \$130,000

☒ Motor Vehicle #1
Year, make & model 2010 Lincoln Navigator
Value \$1,500

☐ Motor Vehicle #2
Year, make & model 2000 Ford F250
Value \$500

☐ Other assets
Description N/A
Value N/A

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	\$ N/A	\$ 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
Thea Shapiro	Step Daughter	21
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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)	\$ 1,100	\$ N/A
Are real estate taxes included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Is property insurance included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Utilities (electricity, heating fuel, water, sewer, and telephone)	\$ 500	\$ 500
Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)	\$ N/A	\$ 200
Food	\$ 250	\$ 250
Clothing	\$ 50	\$ N/A
Laundry and dry-cleaning	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
Medical and dental expenses	\$ N/A	\$ N/A

	You	Your spouse
Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)	\$ <u>150</u>	\$ <u>50</u>
Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc.	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
Homeowner's or renter's	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Life	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Health	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Motor Vehicle	\$ <u>75</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Other: _____	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Taxes (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
(specify): _____	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Installment payments		
Motor Vehicle	\$ <u>150</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Credit card(s)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Department store(s)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Other: _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Alimony, maintenance, and support paid to others	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Regular expenses for operation of business, profession, or farm (attach detailed statement)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other (specify): _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total monthly expenses:	\$ <u>2,275</u>	\$ <u>1,000</u>

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: August 30, 2025

Kerry Barnes
(Signature)