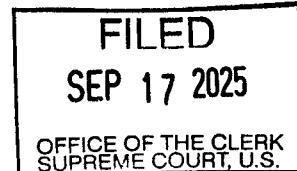


25-5807

ORIGINAL

No. _____



IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

TAMATHA LYNN MELOM, PRO SE — PETITIONER
(Your Name)

VS.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI — 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):

Circuit Court of Stone County (Case No. 66CI1:24-cr-00042-1), Supreme Court of Mississippi

Court of Appeals of the State of Mississippi (Case No. 2024-KM-00782-SCT)

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

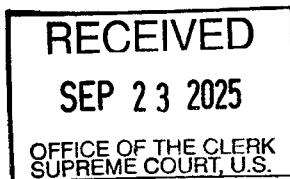
Petitioner's affidavit or declaration in support of this motion is attached hereto.

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.

Tamatha Melom
(Signature)



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

I, Tamatha Lynn Melom, 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 | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Self-employment | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Income from real property (such as rental income) | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Interest and dividends | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Gifts | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Alimony | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Child Support | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Retirement (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance) | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Disability (such as social security, insurance payments) | \$ 961.00 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Unemployment payments | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Public-assistance (such as welfare) | \$ 63.00 (new) | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Other (specify): _____ | \$ 0 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |
| Total monthly income: | \$ 1,024.00 | \$ _____ | \$ _____ | \$ _____ |

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

| Employer | Address | Dates of Employment | Gross monthly pay |
|----------|---------|---------------------|-------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | \$_____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | \$_____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | \$_____ |

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.) N/A

| Employer | Address | Dates of Employment | Gross monthly pay |
|----------|---------|---------------------|-------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | \$_____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | \$_____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | \$_____ |

4. How much cash do you and your spouse have? \$ N/A

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 |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| _____ | \$_____ | \$_____ |
| _____ | \$_____ | \$_____ |
| _____ | \$_____ | \$_____ |

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

Home
Value _____

Other real estate
Value _____

Motor Vehicle #1
Year, make & model _____
Value _____

Motor Vehicle #2
Year, make & model _____
Value _____

Other assets
Description _____
Value _____

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

| Person owing you or your spouse money | Amount owed to you | Amount owed to your spouse |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| _____ | \$_____ | \$_____ |
| _____ | \$_____ | \$_____ |
| _____ | \$_____ | \$_____ |

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"). N/A

| Name | Relationship | Age |
|-------|--------------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

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) | \$ 600.00 (Rent and Water) | _____ |
| Are real estate taxes included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No N/A | | |
| Is property insurance included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No N/A | | |
| Utilities (electricity, heating fuel, water, sewer, and telephone) | \$ 60.00 (Phone) | _____ |
| Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep) | \$ Unknown | _____ |
| Food | \$ 200.00 | _____ |
| Clothing | \$ 0 | _____ |
| Laundry and dry-cleaning | \$ Unknown | _____ |
| Medical and dental expenses | \$ Medicaid | _____ |

| | You | Your spouse |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments) | \$ 60.00 | \$ _____ |
| Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc. | \$ 0 | \$ _____ |
| Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments) | | |
| Homeowner's or renter's | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Life | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Health | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Motor Vehicle | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Other: _____ | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Taxes (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments) | | |
| (specify): _____ | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Installment payments | | |
| Motor Vehicle | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Credit card(s) | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Department store(s) | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Other: _____ | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Alimony, maintenance, and support paid to others | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Regular expenses for operation of business, profession, or farm (attach detailed statement) | \$ N/A | \$ _____ |
| Other (specify): PET FOOD/VET CARE | \$ Unknown | \$ _____ |
| Total monthly expenses: | \$ 1,024.00 | \$ _____ |

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.

Income is below the poverty level in U.S.

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

Executed on: September 12, 2025

Jamie the Melon
(Signature)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF STONE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI **FILED**

VERSUS

JUL 19 2024

CAUSE NO. 66CI1:24-cr-00042

TAMATHA MELOM

STONE COUNTY, MS
CLERK'S OFFICE CIRCUIT CLERK

 D.C.

ORDER GRANTING *IN FORMA PAUPERIS* STATUS

This cause is before the Court on Tamatha Melom's application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. On May 1, 2024, trial was held in the Justice Court of Stone County, Mississippi, on the charges that Tamatha Melom failed to have proper proof of vaccination of the five (5) dogs in her possession, and that all five (5) dogs qualify as dangerous or potentially dangerous under the Stone County, Mississippi, Ordinance governing and regulation ownership of dangerous and potentially dangerous dogs. Ms. Melom was found guilty of failing to have proof of proper vaccination for the five (5) dogs. Additionally, the Justice Court deemed all five (5) dogs as dangerous or potentially dangerous under the Stone County, Mississippi, Ordinance governing and regulation ownership of dangerous and potentially dangerous dogs. Said dogs were ordered to be impounded and euthanized.

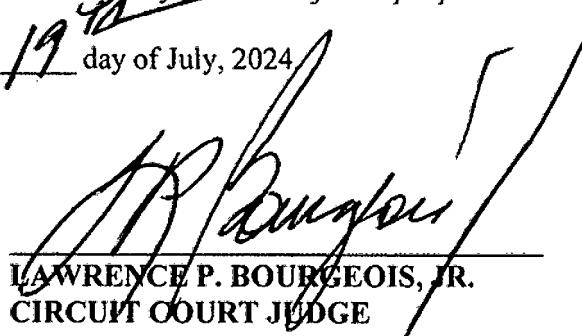
On or about May 22, 2024, Ms. Melom appealed the judgment of the Justice Court to this Court. At that time, she was granted *in forma pauperis* status. This Court held a trial de novo on June 18, 2024. At the time of trial, this Court asked Ms. Melom if she was appealing the portion of the lower court judgment regarding proper vaccinations. Ms. Melom indicated that she was only appealing the determination of the five (5) dogs being dangerous or potentially dangerous, and their possible euthanization. An order was issued by this Court on July 1, 2024, finding Ms. Melom in violation of the Ordinance of Stone County, Mississippi, Regulating Ownership of Dangerous and

Potentially Dangerous Dogs. Further, the five (5) dogs were found to be dangerous or potentially dangerous, and disposition of them was part of the order.

On July 3, 2024, Ms. Melom filed her Notice of Appeal of the decision of this Court. Further Ms. Melom requested she continue to have *in forma pauperis* status. Having previously been declared indigent by the lower court, this Court finds that Ms. Melom's status has not changed, and her application should be granted. Tamatha Melom may appeal *in forma pauperis*.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Tamatha Melom ~~may proceed~~ *in forma pauperis*.

SO ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, this the 19 day of July, 2024


LAWRENCE P. BOURGEOIS, JR.
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

JUSTICE COURT OF STONE COUNTY

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

DOCKET: 204

VS

PAGE: 1538

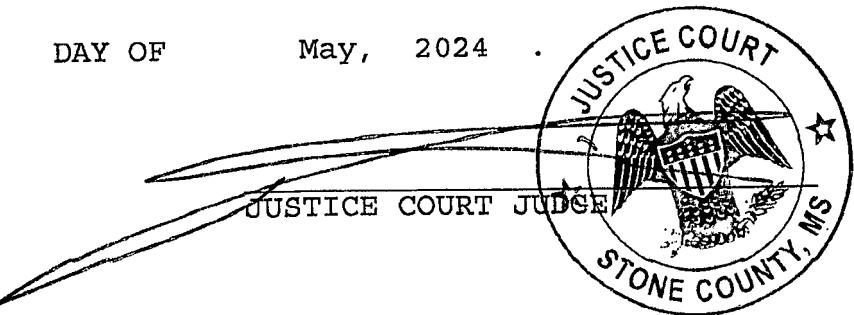
MELOM TAMATHA LYNN

JUDGE'S ORDER

JUDGE'S ORDER

MELON, TAMATHA Lynn's Motion To Continue In Forma Pauperis
WAS GRANTED ON 5/26/2024. MELON'S 2 PERSON HOUSEHOLD INCOME WAS DETERMINED
TO BE #16,048.00 WHICH IS #1,192.00 UNDER THE 2024 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES
RESULTING IN HER QUALIFYING FOR IN FORMA PAUPERIS & MOTION BEING GRANTED.

SO ORDERED THIS THE 28th DAY OF May, 2024





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02-DV-2022-000015.00
DISTRICT COURT OF
MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA
JOJO SCHWARZAUER, CLERK

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF AL EX REL ASHLEY M RICH)
DA,)
Plaintiff,)
)
V.) Case No.: DV-2022-000015.00
)
MELOM TAMATHA,)
Defendant.)

ORDER

AFFIDAVIT OF SUBSTANTIAL HARDSHIP filed by MELOM TAMATHA is hereby GRANTED.

DONE this 15th day of November, 2022.

/s/ GEORGE N. HARDESTY, JR.
DISTRICT JUDGE