

No. _____

IN THE
Supreme Court of the United States

JOVAN RIVERA RODRIGUEZ,
Petitioner,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Respondent.

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

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*

The Petitioner, Jovan Rivera Rodriguez, asks for leave to file the enclosed Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the United States Supreme Court without prepayment of costs and to proceed *in forma pauperis* in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 39, and Title 18, U.S.C. § 3006A(d)(6). The undersigned represented Mr. Rivera Rodriguez for his appeal to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. After the denial of his appeal, counsel continued to represent Mr. Rivera Rodriguez for the filing of the Petition for Writ of Certiorari on a pro bono basis. 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. On August 19, 2025, the Petitioner was transferred from prison to a half-way house. On November 20, 2025, the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) transferred his custody status to house arrest at the home of a family relative. He remains under BOP supervision until April 2026.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner Jovan Rivera Rodriguez prays for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Fritz Scheller
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**AFFIDAVIT OR DECLARATION
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS***

I, Jovan Rivera Rodriguez, 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>3000</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>3000</u>	\$ _____
Self-employment	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Income from real property (such as rental income)	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Interest and dividends	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Gifts	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
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>3000</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>3000</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
<u>Level Resources</u>	<u>1150 Spring Centre S Blvd.</u>	<u>1/3/2026-</u>	<u>\$ 3000</u>
	<u>Altamonte Springs, FL</u>	<u>present</u>	<u>\$</u>
	<u>32714</u>		<u>\$</u>

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
			<u>\$</u>
			<u>\$</u>
			<u>\$</u>

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
<u>Checking</u>	<u>\$ 350</u>	<u>\$</u>
<u>Savings</u>	<u>\$ 600</u>	<u>\$</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>

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

Home
 Value _____

Other real estate
 Value _____

Motor Vehicle #1
 Year, make & model 2016 Jeep Compass
 Value \$ 3100

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.

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").

Name	Relationship	Age
<u>J. R.</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>J. R.</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>13</u>
_____	_____	_____

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? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Is property insurance included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Utilities (electricity, heating fuel, water, sewer, and telephone)	\$ <u>443</u>	\$ _____
Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)	\$ <u>250</u>	\$ _____
Food	\$ <u>350</u>	\$ _____
Clothing	\$ <u>280</u>	\$ _____
Laundry and dry-cleaning	\$ _____	\$ _____
Medical and dental expenses	\$ _____	\$ _____

	You	Your spouse
Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)	\$ <u>170</u>	\$ _____
Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc.	\$ <u>80</u>	\$ _____
Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
Homeowner's or renter's	\$ _____	\$ _____
Life	\$ _____	\$ _____
Health	\$ _____	\$ _____
Motor Vehicle	\$ <u>120</u>	\$ _____
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	\$ <u>600</u>	\$ _____
Regular expenses for operation of business, profession, or farm (attach detailed statement)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other (specify): _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total monthly expenses:	\$ <u>2293</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 have outstanding debts that I could not pay while in prison including: \$3000 (previous car loan); \$4875 (credit cards) and a personal loan I received in the amount of \$3800 that was used to purchase my vehicle (Jeep Compass).

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

Executed on: 02/27, 2026



(Signature)