

No. 25-700

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

FILED
FEB 23 2026
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT U.S.

ERNEST MILLS,

Petitioner

ORIGINAL

v.

STATE OF LOUISIANA,

Respondents.

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*

Above named petitioner, Ernest Mills, asks leave to file the simultaneously submitted Petition for a Writ of Certiorari without prepayment of costs and to proceed in forma pauperis.

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.



Ernest Mills, #551356
Allen Correctional Center
3751 Lauderdale Woodyard Rd.
Kinder, LA 70648

DUPLICATE

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

I, Ernest Mills, am the petitioner in the above-titled 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 taxed 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>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Self-employment	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Income from real property (such as rental income)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Gifts	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Alimony	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Child Support	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Retirement (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Disability (such as social security, insurance payments)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Unemployment payments	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Public-assistance (such as welfare)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Other (specify): <u>Family/Friends</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Total monthly income:	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>

2. List your employment history for the past two years, most recent first. (Gross monthly payment 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.

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

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.

Financial institution	Type of account	Amount you have	Amount your spouse has
N/A	N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
N/A	N/A	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
N/A	N/A	\$ N/A	\$ 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 N/A
- Motor Vehicle #2
Year, make & model N/A
Value N/A
- 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
<u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
<u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
<u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>

7. State the persons who rely on you or your spouse for support.

Name	Relationship	Age
<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</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	Spouse
Rent or home-mortgage payment (include lot rented for mobile home)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
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>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Food	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Clothing	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Laundry and dry-cleaning	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Medical and dental expenses	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>

You **Spouse**

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

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

N/A

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

Yes No

If yes, how much? N/A.

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

N/A

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

I am currently incarcerated in the custody of the Louisiana Department of Corrections at Allen Correctional Center. I have no income whatsoever. The court cost would present a hardship if not waived by this Honorable Court.

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

Executed on: February 23, 2026



Ernest Mills, #551356
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