

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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IN THE  
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

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MICHAEL CONNER,  
*Petitioner,*

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
*Respondent.*

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

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**MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS**

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NOW COMES Petitioner Michael Conner, through undersigned counsel, and moves this Honorable Court for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* and to file the attached Petition for Writ of Certiorari without prepayment of costs, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 39 and 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(d)(7). A United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana appointed the Federal Public Defender to represent Mr. Conner. *See United States v. Conner*, No. 2:23-cr-054-1, ECF No. 8 (E.D. La. March 13, 2023) (order attached hereto).

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully moves this Honorable Court for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* and to file the attached Petition for Writ of Certiorari without prepayment of costs.

Respectfully submitted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

/s/ Celia Rhoads  
Celia Rhoads  
Assistant Federal Public Defender  
*Counsel of Record*  
500 Poydras Street, Suite 318  
Hale Boggs Federal Building  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130  
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CR.NO. 23-19 MAG

VERSUS

**ORDER**

MICHAEL CONNER

   **X** Appointing Counsel  
   Substituting Counsel For:

   Ratifying Prior Service  
   Extending Appointment For Appeal

CHARGE: POSSESSION OF A FIREARM IN FURTHERANCE OF DRUG TRAFFICKING;  
POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES; FELON IN  
POSSESSION OF A FIREARM OR AMMUNITION

   **X** FELONY    MISDEMEANOR

   **X** The defendant, having satisfied this Court that he/she: (1) is financially unable to employ counsel, and (2) does not wish to waive counsel, and because the interests of justice so require, the Federal Public Defender named below is hereby appointed to represent this defendant in the above designated case until relieved by order of the District Court:

**CLAUDE KELLY, FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER, HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BLDG.,  
RM 318, 500 CAMP ST, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130 PHONE: (504)589-7930**

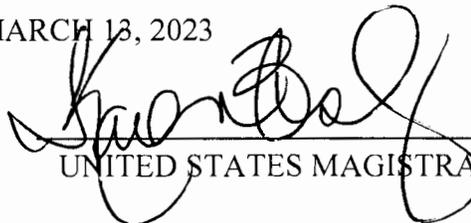
   Federal Public Defender is appointed for the limited purpose of:

   It appearing to the Court that although the defendant is financially unable to employ counsel, he/she is totally indigent.

   IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the defendant pay to the Clerk, U. S. District Court for services of counsel, the total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid within 10 working days or by \_\_\_\_\_.

   IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the defendant is to pay to the Clerk, U.S. District Court, for services of counsel, \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month. This amount is to be paid, beginning on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, until further orders of the Court.

Dated at New Orleans, Louisiana, on MARCH 13, 2023

  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Copy to Financial Unit Clerk (Only if defendant is ordered to pay)

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