

No. _____

25-7156

ORIGINAL

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

FILED
FEB 09 2026
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT, U.S.

Hezekiah Hamilton — PETITIONER
(Your Name)

VS.

People Of The State Of Illinois — 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):

People v. Hamilton, 132150 S. CT OF Illinois

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.

Hezekiah Hamilton
(Signature)

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

I, Hezekiah Hamilton, 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>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Self-employment	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Income from real property (such as rental income)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Gifts	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Alimony	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Child Support	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Retirement (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Disability (such as social security, insurance payments)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Unemployment payments	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Public-assistance (such as welfare)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Other (specify): _____	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Total monthly income:	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</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>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>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</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>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>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>

4. How much cash do you and your spouse have? \$ 0
 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
<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>	<u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</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 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	Your spouse
Rent or home-mortgage payment (include lot rented for mobile home)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
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)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Food	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Clothing	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Laundry and dry-cleaning	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Medical and dental expenses	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>

	You	Your spouse
Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</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>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Other: <u>N/A</u>	\$ <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>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Installment payments		
Motor Vehicle	\$ <u>N/A</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: <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
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)	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Other (specify): <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>	\$ <u>N/A</u>
Total monthly expenses:	\$ <u>N/A</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? _____

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? _____

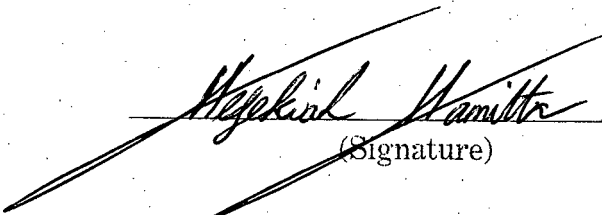
If yes, state the person's name, address, and telephone number:

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

I have no family support at all I've been incarcerated for over 18 years

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

Executed on: February 8, 2026



(Signature)

CERTIFICATE

TO BE COMPLETED FOR PRISONERS ONLY. THIS IS A STATEMENT BY THE PRISON AND NOT THE PRISONER

I hereby certify that the plaintiff or petitioner in this action has the sum of \$ 208.26 in his trust fund account at this correctional center where he is confined.

I further certify that the plaintiff or petitioner has the following securities to his credit according to the records of this institution:

Menard CC

Jennifer Westerman
Authorized officer

Menard CC
Institution

Act Sec II
Title

2/3/26
Date

IMPORTANT:

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A COPY OF A SIX MONTH LEDGER OF THE PLAINTIFF'S TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.

Menard Correctional Center Trust Fund

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Inmate Transaction Statement

REPORT CRITERIA - Date: 01/01/2025 thru 08/31/2025; Inmate: R26458; Active Status Only ? : No; Print Restrictions ? :
Yes; Transaction Type: All Transaction Types; Print Furloughs / Restitutions ? : Yes; Include Inmate Totals ? : Yes; Print
Balance Errors Only ? : No; Statewide ? : No

Inmate: R26458 Hamilton, Hezekiah

Housing Unit: MEN-NU-06-13

Date	Source	Transaction Type	Batch	Reference #	Description	Amount	Balance
						Beginning Balance:	1,205.64
01/08/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	0087323	1630185	Commissary	-80.45	1,125.19
01/09/25	Payroll	20 Payroll Adjustment	0091248		ICI P/R DEC 24 KNIT SHOP	216.70	1,341.89
01/10/25	Disbursements	84 Library	0103113	Chk #229581	837879, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/07/2025	-.50	1,341.39
01/23/25	Disbursements	84 Library	0233113	Chk #229909	838373, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/13/2025	-.90	1,340.49
01/23/25	Disbursements	84 Library	0233113	Chk #229909	838962, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/21/2025	-1.80	1,338.69
01/23/25	Disbursements	84 Library	0233113	Chk #229909	838965, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/21/2025	-1.80	1,336.89
01/23/25	Disbursements	84 Library	0233113	Chk #229909	838966, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/21/2025	-1.30	1,335.59
01/23/25	Disbursements	84 Library	0233113	Chk #229909	838992, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/21/2025	-5.20	1,330.39
01/23/25	Disbursements	80 Postage	0233113	Chk #229914	839154, Pitney Bowes, Inv. Date: 01/22/2025	-.69	1,329.70
01/23/25	Disbursements	81 Legal Postage	0233113	Chk #229916	838519, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/14/2025	-.97	1,328.73
01/23/25	Disbursements	81 Legal Postage	0233113	Chk #229916	838929, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/21/2025	-4.01	1,324.72
01/23/25	Disbursements	81 Legal Postage	0233113	Chk #229916	838932, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 01/21/2025	-4.01	1,320.71
01/27/25	Disbursements	88 to my account "gift"	0273113	Chk #229981	88318375, CEFCU, Inv. Date: 01/24/2025	-25.00	1,295.71
01/30/25	Mail Room	16 GTL	030200	22247518298917	Word, Jennifer	100.00	1,395.71
01/31/25	Disbursements	88 gift	0313113	Chk #230098	88318502, Phillips,, Inv. Date: 01/30/2025	-100.00	1,295.71
01/31/25	Disbursements	80 Postage	0313113	Chk #230143	839320, Pitney Bowes, Inv. Date: 01/24/2025	-.28	1,295.43
01/31/25	Disbursements	80 Postage	0313113	Chk #230143	839888, Pitney Bowes, Inv. Date: 01/30/2025	-.69	1,294.74
02/06/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	0377349	1632550	Commissary	-73.56	1,221.18
02/10/25	Payroll	20 Payroll Adjustment	0411248		ICI P/R JAN 2025 KNIT SHOP	166.67	1,387.85
02/13/25	Disbursements	81 Legal Postage	0443113	Chk #230370	840693, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 02/10/2025	-.97	1,386.88
02/25/25	Disbursements	88 gift	0563351	Chk #230554	88318873, CEFCU, Inv. Date: 02/24/2025	-400.00	986.88
02/25/25	Mail Room	17 REFUND	0562248	15-5		75.00	1,061.88
03/06/25	Mail Room	16 GTL	065200	22264486213157	Word, Jennifer	20.00	1,081.88
03/07/25	Payroll	20 Payroll Adjustment	0661226		ICI P/R FEB 2025 KNIT SHOP	211.48	1,293.36
03/10/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	0697297	1635134	Commissary	-125.41	1,167.95
03/13/25	Mail Room	16 GTL	072200	22264736833829	Word, Jennifer	80.00	1,247.95
03/18/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	0777328	1636158	Commissary	-37.78	1,210.17
03/21/25	Disbursements	81 Legal Postage	0803351	Chk #231089	844092, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 03/20/2025	-.69	1,209.48
03/24/25	Disbursements	88 gift	0833113	Chk #231118	88319323, CEFCU, Inv. Date: 03/24/2025	-400.00	809.48
03/31/25	Disbursements	81 Legal Postage	0903351	Chk #231282	844464, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 03/25/2025	-2.04	807.44
04/04/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	0947353	1637570	Commissary	-59.00	748.44
04/07/25	Payroll	20 Payroll Adjustment	0971248		ICI P/R MARCH '25 KNIT SHOP	303.52	1,051.96
04/09/25	Disbursements	88 gift	0993351	Chk #231383	88319553, Top Notch, Inv. Date: 04/08/2025	-8.00	1,043.96

Inmate Transaction Statement

REPORT CRITERIA - Date: 01/01/2025 thru 08/31/2025; Inmate: R26458; Active Status Only ? : No; Print Restrictions ? :
Yes; Transaction Type: All Transaction Types; Print Furloughs / Restitutions ? : Yes; Include Inmate Totals ? : Yes; Print
Balance Errors Only ? : No; Statewide ? : No

Inmate: R26458 Hamilton, Hezekiah

Housing Unit: MEN-NU-06-13

Date	Source	Transaction Type	Batch	Reference #	Description	Amount	Balance
04/09/25	Disbursements	88 gift	0993351	Chk #231391	88319552, The Cell B, Inv. Date: 04/08/2025	-16.00	1,027.96
04/16/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	1067328	1639010	Commissary	-90.90	937.06
04/23/25	Disbursements	88 gift	1133351	Chk #231609	88319670, CEFCU, Inv. Date: 04/22/2025	-400.00	537.06
04/23/25	Disbursements	88 gift	1133351	Chk #231679	88319762, CEFCU, Inv. Date: 04/23/2025	-400.00	137.06
05/05/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	1257328	1640476	Commissary	-105.75	31.31
05/09/25	Payroll	20 Payroll Adjustment	1291248		ICI P/R April 25 knit shop	355.02	386.33
05/15/25	Disbursements	88 gift	1353351	Chk #232001	88320050, CEFCU, Inv. Date: 05/15/2025	-200.00	186.33
05/15/25	Disbursements	88 gift	1353351	Chk #232005	88320051, Rivera, De, Inv. Date: 05/15/2025	-150.00	36.33
05/16/25	Disbursements	80 Postage	1363351	Chk #232020	847730, Pitney Bowes, Inv. Date: 05/07/2025	-.69	35.64
05/22/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	1427329	1642256	Commissary	-35.52	.12
06/05/25	Mail Room	16 GTL	1562322	487731	GTL	2.04	2.16
06/09/25	Payroll	20 Payroll Adjustment	1601226		ICI P/R MAY 2025 KNIT SHOP	311.15	313.31
06/13/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	1647354	1643951	Commissary	-41.33	271.98
06/18/25	Disbursements	88 Gift	1693351	Chk #232466	88320392, Top Notch, Inv. Date: 06/17/2025	-8.00	263.98
06/18/25	Disbursements	88 Gift	1693351	Chk #232483	88320391, CEFCU, Inv. Date: 06/17/2025	-202.39	61.59
06/23/25	Disbursements	80 Postage	1743351	Chk #232534	850583, Pitney Bowes, Inv. Date: 06/16/2025	-2.04	59.55
07/02/25	Payroll	20 Payroll Adjustment	1831226		ICI P/R JUNE 25 KNIT SHOP	177.88	237.43
07/11/25	Disbursements	80 Postage	1923351	Chk #232826	852088, Pitney Bowes, Inv. Date: 07/10/2025	-2.04	235.39
07/11/25	Disbursements	88 Gift	1923351	Chk #232833	88320711, Freebird P, Inv. Date: 07/11/2025	-16.99	218.40
07/11/25	Disbursements	88 Gift	1923351	Chk #232847	88320710, CEFCU, Inv. Date: 07/11/2025	-156.04	62.36
07/18/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	1997358	1646227	Commissary	-45.68	16.68
08/08/25	Mail Room	10 Western Union	220200	4229217397	Hamilton, Boswell	50.00	66.68
08/08/25	Disbursements	84 Library	2203351	Chk #233351	853635, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 08/06/2025	-12.00	54.68
08/08/25	Disbursements	80 Postage	2203351	Chk #233356	853728, Pitney Bowes, Inv. Date: 08/08/2025	-7.45	47.23
08/08/25	Disbursements	81 Legal Postage	2203351	Chk #233358	853650, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 08/07/2025	-3.28	43.95
08/11/25	Mail Room	10 Western Union	223200	8985606481	Hamilton, Fiona	200.00	243.95
08/11/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	2237323	1647826	Commissary	-40.00	203.95
08/14/25	Point of Sale	60 Commissary	2267358	1648301	Commissary	-24.20	179.75
08/14/25	Payroll	20 Payroll Adjustment	2261248		ICI P/R JULY 2025 KNIT	142.44	322.19
08/15/25	Disbursements	81 Legal Postage	2273351	Chk #233461	853820, DOC: 523 Fun, Inv. Date: 08/11/2025	-6.56	315.63
08/18/25	Mail Room	10 Western Union	230200	8555629316	Hite, Valerie	75.00	390.63
08/25/25	Disbursements	88 outgiong mail to "Baltimore MD21227-1563	2373351	Chk #233544	88321234, Islamic Bo, Inv. Date: 08/18/2025	-14.50	376.13

Date: 2/3/2026

Time: 2:26pm

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Menard Correctional Center Trust Fund

Inmate Transaction Statement

REPORT CRITERIA - Date: 01/01/2025 thru 08/31/2025; Inmate: R26458; Active Status Only ? : No; Print Restrictions ? :
Yes; Transaction Type: All Transaction Types; Print Furloughs / Restitutions ? : Yes; Include Inmate Totals ? : Yes; Print
Balance Errors Only ? : No; Statewide ? : No

Inmate: R26458 Hamilton, Hezekiah

Housing Unit: MEN-NU-06-13

Date	Source	Transaction Type	Batch	Reference #	Description	Amount	Balance
08/28/25	Disbursements	88 outgoing mail to "Windsor, CO 80550	2403351	Chk #233639	88321314, Inmate Con, Inv. Date: 08/28/2025	-5.00	371.13

Total Inmate Funds:	208.26
Less Funds Held For Orders:	.00
Less Funds Restricted:	.00
Funds Available:	208.26
Total Furloughs:	.00
Total Voluntary Restitutions:	.00