

No. _____

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

RICHARD KNIGHT,
Petitioner,

v.

STATE OF FLORIDA,
Respondent.

ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO
THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

CAPITAL CASE

DEATH WARRANT SIGNED
Execution Set: May 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*

Counsel for Petitioner, **Richard Knight**, respectfully asks leave of this Court to proceed *in forma pauperis* in this proceeding. Petitioner has been found indigent by each state and federal court in which he has challenged his conviction and sentence, and he has been permitted to proceed *in forma pauperis* before each court, including: the Florida Supreme Court, the Circuit Court of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit in and for Broward County, Florida; the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida; the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit; and this Court.

The Office of the Capital Collateral Regional Counsel – South (CCRC-South) is a Florida state agency charged with the statutory responsibility of providing legal

representation in both state and federal capital postconviction proceedings to people convicted and sentenced to death in Florida. Part IV, Chapter 27, Florida Statutes (1994), is the CCRC-South enabling statute. CCRC-South has been counsel of record for Petitioner in his postconviction proceedings since the Florida Supreme Court affirmed Petitioner's convictions and sentences of death on direct appeal. Undersigned counsel is a member of the Bar of this Court.

WHEREFORE, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 39, Petitioner requests permission to proceed *in forma pauperis* in this action.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Todd Scher

TODD SCHER*

Assistant CCRC-South

Florida Bar No. 0899641

TScher@msn.com

**Counsel of Record*

MICHAEL T. COOKSON

Staff Attorney

Florida Bar No. 1057838

CooksonM@ccsr.state.fl.us

Pleadings@ccsr.state.fl.us

CAPITAL COLLATERAL

REGIONAL COUNSEL-SOUTH

110 SE 6th Street, Suite 701

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

(954) 713-1284

COUNSEL FOR MR. KNIGHT

May 19, 2026