

25-7694

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

ORIGINAL

FILED  
APR 22 2026

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
SUPREME COURT, U.S.

IN THE  
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Howard Ellsworth III  
Theresa Ellsworth — PETITIONER  
(Your Name)

VS.

United States of America 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):

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas; United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

☐ 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.

Theresa Ellsworth

(Signature)

RECEIVED

JUN 26 2026

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SUPREME COURT, U.S.

RECEIVED

APR 28 2026

OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
SUPREME COURT, U.S.

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

I, Howard Ellsworth III  
Theresa Ellsworth, 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<br>the past 12 months |                  | Amount expected<br>next month |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
|                                                                            | You                                                 | Spouse           | You                           | Spouse           |
| Employment                                                                 | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>800.00</u> | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>800.00</u> |
| Self-employment                                                            | \$ <u>1,000</u>                                     | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>1,000</u>               | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Income from real property<br>(such as rental income)                       | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Interest and dividends                                                     | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Gifts                                                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Alimony                                                                    | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Child Support                                                              | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Retirement (such as social<br>security, pensions,<br>annuities, insurance) | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Disability (such as social<br>security, insurance payments)                | \$ <u>4,400.00</u>                                  | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>4,400.00</u>            | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Unemployment payments                                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Public-assistance<br>(such as welfare)                                     | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| Other (specify): <u>N/A</u>                                                | \$ <u>0.00</u>                                      | \$ <u>0.00</u>   | \$ <u>0.00</u>                | \$ <u>0.00</u>   |
| <b>Total monthly income:</b>                                               | \$ <u>5,400.00</u>                                  | \$ <u>800.00</u> | \$ <u>5,400.00</u>            | \$ <u>800.00</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 |
|----------|------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Self     | 5000 Crawford Drive The colony, TX 75056 | April 2019 - Present | \$ 1,000.00       |
|          |                                          |                      | \$                |
|          |                                          |                      | \$                |

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 |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| LISD     | 1585 W Main St Lewisville, TX 75067 | September 2025 - [REDACTED] TE<br>May 2026 | \$ 900.00         |
|          |                                     |                                            | \$                |
|          |                                     |                                            | \$                |

4. How much cash do you and your spouse have? \$ 100.00  
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 |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Chase checking Personal                     | \$ 100 - 4,000  | \$ 0.00                |
| Chase checking Business                     | \$ 100 - 1,000  | \$ 0.00                |
|                                             | \$              | \$                     |

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

☒ Home  
Value 250,000.00

☐ Other real estate  
Value N/A

☒ Motor Vehicle #1  
Year, make & model 2023 Ram 1500  
Value 40,000

☒ Motor Vehicle #2  
Year, make & model 2021 Jeep Compass  
Value 15,000

☐ 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>              |
| _____                                 | \$ _____           | \$ _____                   |
| _____                                 | \$ _____           | \$ _____                   |

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       |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| J.E. [REDACTED] | <u>Son</u>      | <u>11</u> |
| M.E. [REDACTED] | <u>Daughter</u> | <u>6</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<br>(include lot rented for mobile home)                               | \$ <u>1,550</u>  | \$ _____    |
| Are real estate taxes included? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |                  |             |
| Is property insurance included? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |                  |             |
| Utilities (electricity, heating fuel,<br>water, sewer, and telephone)                               | \$ <u>757.57</u> | \$ _____    |
| Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)                                                               | \$ _____         | \$ _____    |
| Food                                                                                                | \$ <u>1,500</u>  | \$ _____    |
| Clothing                                                                                            | \$ _____         | \$ _____    |
| Laundry and dry-cleaning                                                                            | \$ _____         | \$ _____    |
| Medical and dental expenses                                                                         | \$ _____         | \$ _____    |

|                                                                                                | You                | Your spouse      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)                                          | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc.                                         | \$ <u>1,187.66</u> | \$ _____         |
| Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)                           |                    |                  |
| Homeowner's or renter's                                                                        | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| Life                                                                                           | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| Health                                                                                         | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| Motor Vehicle                                                                                  | \$ <u>567.45</u>   | \$ _____         |
| Other: <u>RV</u>                                                                               | \$ <u>133.28</u>   | \$ _____         |
| Taxes (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)                               |                    |                  |
| (specify): _____                                                                               | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| Installment payments                                                                           |                    |                  |
| Motor Vehicle                                                                                  | \$ <u>1,012.94</u> | \$ <u>387.96</u> |
| Credit card(s)                                                                                 | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| Department store(s)                                                                            | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| Other: <u>Foundation</u>                                                                       | \$ <u>492.19</u>   | \$ _____         |
| Alimony, maintenance, and support paid to others                                               | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| Regular expenses for operation of business, profession,<br>or farm (attach detailed statement) | \$ <u>1,299.44</u> | \$ _____         |
| Other (specify): _____                                                                         | \$ _____           | \$ _____         |
| <b>Total monthly expenses:</b>                                                                 | \$ <u>8,500.53</u> | \$ <u>387.96</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:

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

Executed on: April 22, 2026

  
(Signature)

# Financial Statement

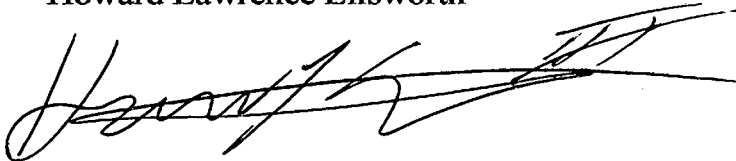
I, Howard L. Ellsworth <sup>III</sup>, am a 100% Disabled Veteran. I operate a Pest Control business.

For business purposes, I spend between \$500.00-\$1,000.00+ per month on chemicals, licensing, website, and other expenses.

For our Personal Financial Affidavit, I'd like to note that my wife and I do NOT split paying of bills and expenses; we struggle month to month to make ends meet as is, and adding in the fees for Court Cost would be detrimental to our family.

Sincerely,

Howard Lawrence Ellsworth <sup>III</sup>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Howard L. Ellsworth III', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

Pro Se

5000 Crawford Drive

The Colony, Texas, 75056

330-813-8914