

No. 25-847

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER TERM, 2025

STATE OF ALABAMA,

Petitioner,

v.

BRANDON DEWAYNE SYKES,

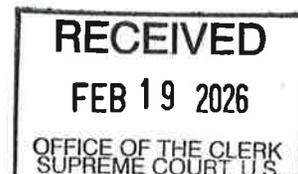
Respondent.

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI
TO THE ALABAMA COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

MOTION TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*

Respondent Brandon Sykes, pursuant to Rule 39 of the Rules of the Supreme Court of the United States, respectfully requests leave to file the attached Brief in Opposition to the State of Alabama's Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals without pre-payment of costs and to proceed *in forma pauperis*.

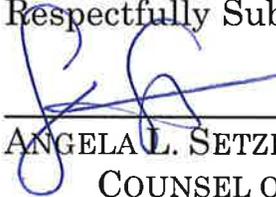
Respondent was declared indigent prior to his trial and proceeded



in forma pauperis in all prior proceedings in state court. The Lamar County Circuit Court appointed counsel to represent Mr. Sykes in the appeal of his capital conviction and death sentence. See Sup. Ct. R. 39(1). This order is attached as Appendix A.

For these reasons, Mr. Sykes respectfully requests that this Court grant him leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* in this Court.

Respectfully Submitted,



ANGELA L. SETZER

COUNSEL OF RECORD

SOFIA V. McDONALD

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February 17, 2026

Counsel for Respondent

APPENDIX A



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CIRCUIT COURT OF
LAMAR COUNTY, ALABAMA
MARY ANN JONES, CLERK

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF LAMAR COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA

)

V.

)

) Case No.: CC-2019-000144.00

)

SYKES BRANDON DEWAYNE

)

Defendant.

)

ORDER

It is hereby ORDERED that the Honorable Angela Setzer is appointed to represent the Defendant in *ALL* appeal and other post conviction relief.

DONE this 3rd day of May, 2022.

/s/ SAMUEL W. JUNKIN
CIRCUIT JUDGE