

No.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

DAVID JONES, PETITIONER,

v.

STATE OF FLORIDA, RESPONDENT.

PETITIONER'S MOTION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS

DANIEL EISINGER

Public Defender

Paul Edward Petillo

Assistant Public Defender

Counsel of Record

Office of the Public Defender
Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida
421 Third Street
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
(561) 355-7600

ppetillo@pd15.org

appeals@pd15.org

COMES NOW Petitioner, David Jones, and moves this Court, pursuant to Rule 39.1, Rules of the Supreme Court, to declare him indigent and allow him to proceed *in forma pauperis* in this cause, in particular to waive any filing fees. As grounds therefore, Petitioner says:

1. Petitioner applies for a writ of certiorari to review the decision of the Fourth District Court of Appeal of Florida affirming his conviction and sentence.

2. On December 15, 2023, Petitioner was declared an indigent party, and the public defender was appointed to represent him on appeal. *See Fla. Stat. § 27.52 (2023)*.

3. Petitioner is imprisoned for life; he is still indigent, and he has no funds with which to pay any fees or costs in this action.

4. Federal law requires all courts of the United States to allow commencement and prosecution of any suit without prepayment of fees or costs upon the showing made above. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a).

5. Refusal to allow Petitioner to proceed *in forma pauperis* would deny him equal protection of the law, meaningful access to the courts, and due process of the law since he cannot otherwise

get the review to which a more affluent petitioner would be entitled.
See Burns v. Ohio, 360 U. S. 252 (1959).

WHEREFORE, Petitioner moves that this Court declare him indigent and allow him to file and prosecute his petition without the payment of any fees or costs.

Respectfully Submitted,

DANIEL EISINGER
Public Defender

/s/ PAUL EDWARD PETILLO
Paul Edward Petillo
Assistant Public Defender
Counsel of Record

Office of the Public Defender
Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida
421 Third Street
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401
(561) 355-7600

ppetillo@pd15.org
appeals@pd15.org