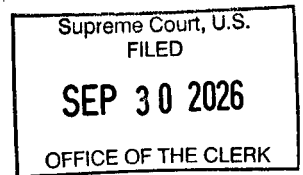


26 - 5758

ORIGINAL

No. _____

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES



MARK ROOTE,
Petitioner,

v.

KERSHAW COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, et al.,
Respondents.

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.

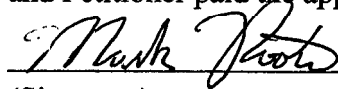
Please check the appropriate box:

☐ Petitioner has previously been granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis in the following court(s): _____

☒ 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 previously sought leave to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, No. 26-6380. That court denied leave on April 6, 2026, and Petitioner paid the appellate docketing fee.



(Signature)

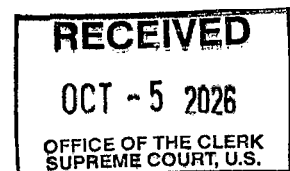
Mark Roote

1079 Corbett Road

Camden, South Carolina 29020

(803) 677-6328

mroote5569@gmail.com



No. _____

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

MARK ROOTE,
Petitioner,

v.

KERSHAW COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, et al.,
Respondents.

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

I, Mark Roote, 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. Use gross amounts (before taxes or other deductions).

Income Source	Avg. Monthly (You)	Avg. Monthly (Spouse)	Expected Next Mo. (You)	Expected Next Mo. (Spouse)
Employment	\$3204	\$0	\$2800	\$0
Self-employment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Income from real property	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interest and dividends	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gifts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Alimony	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Child support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Retirement (SS, pension, etc.)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Disability (SS, insurance)	\$2844	\$2362	\$2844	\$2362
Unemployment payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public assistance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (specify): _____	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME	\$6048	\$2362	\$5644	\$2362

2. List your employment history for the past two years, most recent first.

Employer	Address	Dates of Employment	Gross Monthly Pay
Actalent Services	7301 Parkway Drive S. Hanover, MD 21706	12/1/2024 - current	\$2800
			\$
			\$

3. List your spouse's employment history for the past two years, most recent first.

Employer	Address	Dates of Employment	Gross Monthly Pay
Pruitt Health	328 Riverchase Way Suite A Lexington, SC 29072	1/3/2016 – 8/2/2025	\$3,000
			\$
			\$

4. How much cash do you and your spouse currently have (combined)?:

\$20

Below, state any money you or your spouse have in bank accounts or other financial institutions.

Type of Account	Amount (You)	Amount (Spouse)
Checking	\$450	\$300
	\$	\$

\$

\$

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

☐ Home — Value: \$ 193,392

☐ Other real estate — Value: \$ N/A

☐ Motor Vehicle #1 (Year, make, model): 2017 Nissan Titan Value: \$ 13,300

☐ Motor Vehicle #2 (Year, make, model): 2012 Nissan Sentra Value: \$ 1,750

☐ Other assets (describe): N/A Value: \$

6. State every person, business, or organization owing you or your spouse money, and the amount owed.

Person/Entity Owning Money	Amount Owed to You	Amount Owed to Spouse
None	N/A	N/A
	\$	\$

7. State the persons who rely on you or your spouse for support. For minor children, list initials instead of names.

Name / Initials	Relationship	Age
AWR	Minor Child	15

8. Estimate the average monthly expenses of you and your family. Show amounts paid by your spouse separately.

Expense	You	Spouse
Rent or home-mortgage payment	\$1,120.37	\$0

Real estate taxes included? ☐ Yes ☐ No	N/A	N/A
Property insurance included? ☐ Yes ☐ No	N/A	N/A
Utilities (electric, heat, water, phone)	\$395	\$438.72
Home maintenance	\$400	\$0
Food	\$400	\$400
Clothing	\$150	\$250
Laundry and dry-cleaning	\$0	\$0
Medical and dental expenses	\$150	\$150
Transportation (not vehicle payments)	\$400	\$250
Recreation, entertainment, etc.	\$400	\$250
Insurance — Homeowner's/renter's	\$0	\$0
Insurance — Life	\$0	\$0
Insurance — Health	\$0	\$0
Insurance — Motor vehicle	\$0	\$0
Insurance — Other	\$0	\$0
Taxes not deducted elsewhere (specify):	\$0	\$0
Installment — Motor vehicle	\$823.10	\$0
Installment — Credit card(s)	\$250	\$500
Installment — Department store(s)	\$0	\$0
Installment — Other	\$0	\$0
Alimony/maintenance/support paid to others	\$0	\$0
Business/profession/farm expenses (attach detail)	\$0	\$0
Other (specify):	\$0	\$0
TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES	\$4,488.47	\$2,238.72

☐ 9. Do you expect any major changes to your monthly income, expenses, assets, or liabilities in the next 12 months? ☐ Yes ☒ No (If yes, describe on an attached sheet.)

☐ 10. Have you paid — or will you pay — an attorney for services related to this case, including preparing this form? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, how much? \$_____ Attorney name/address/phone: _____

☐ 11. Have you paid — or will you pay — anyone other than an attorney (e.g., a paralegal or typist) for services related to this case? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, how much? \$_____ Name/address/phone: _____

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

I am a disabled veteran. My disability was triggered by the events underlying this case and affects my ability to sustain focus and concentration, which has made it extremely difficult for me to perform the duties of my profession as a process safety engineering consultant. I also have multiple physical disabilities that prevent me from obtaining or sustaining manual labor employment as an alternative source of income. These conditions have directly and substantially reduced my earning capacity, as reflected in the income figures provided above.

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

Executed on: 30 SEPTEMBER 2026



(Signature)