

SUPREME COURT
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CASE NO. _____

WILLIE DAVID LARK

PETITIONER

V.

**MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED
IN FORMA PAUPERIS**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEFENDANT

Comes the Petitioner, Willie David Lark, by counsel, and respectfully requests that he be permitted to proceed in this matter *in forma pauperis*.

In support of this motion, Petitioner states that under the Criminal Justice Act of 1964, the undersigned attorney was appointed to represent Petitioner's interests on appeal in the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit due to the Petitioner's indigent status. The Ruling Letter from the United States Court of Appeals showing the undersigned's appointment is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Jeffrey C. Rager
Jeffrey C. Rager
Rager Law Firm
201 West Short Street, Suite 820
(859) 963-2929
Counsel for Willie David Lark

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jeffrey C. Rager, attorney for the petitioner, Willie David Lark, hereby certify that the original and ten copies of this Motion for Leave and Petition for Writ of Certiorari were mailed to the Office of the Clerk, Supreme Court of the United States, One 1st Street NE Washington, DC 20543; and that a true copy of the foregoing Petition was served by mail with first-class postage prepaid, upon the Solicitor General of the United States, Room 5614, Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001; J. Austin Hakes, United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Michigan, 330 Ionia Avenue NW, Suite 501, Grand Rapids, MI 49503; Willie Lark , Inmate No. 25417-510, Manchester FCI, P.O. Box 4000, Manchester, KY 40962, by first class mail on this the. day of October 1, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Jeffrey C. Rager
Jeffrey C. Rager
Counsel for Willie David Lark

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

Kelly L. Stephens
Clerk

100 EAST FIFTH STREET, ROOM 540
POTTER STEWART U.S. COURTHOUSE
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Filed: June 20, 2025

Mr. Jeffrey C. Rager
Rager Law
2176 Palomar Trace Drive
P.O. Box 911006
Lexington, KY 40513

Re: Case No. 25-1337, *USA v. Willie Lark*
Originating Case No. : 1:22-cr-00140-1

Dear Counsel,

This confirms your appointment to represent the defendant in the above appeal under the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A.

You must file your appearance form and order transcript within 14 days of this letter. The appearance form and instructions for the transcript order process can be found on this court's website. Please note that transcript ordering in CJA-eligible cases is a two-part process, requiring that you complete both the financing of the transcript (following the district court's procedures) and ordering the transcript (following the court of appeals' docketing procedures). Additional information regarding the special requirements of financing and ordering transcripts in CJA cases can be found on this court's website at <http://www.ca6.uscourts.gov/criminal-justice-act> under "Guidelines for Transcripts in CJA Cases."

If the record contains sealed documents that are necessary for purposes of appeal, counsel is encouraged to communicate directly with the appropriate district court clerk to establish electronic access. If necessary, counsel may motion the court for appropriate relief. Counsel should consult the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure and this court's local rules and operating procedures for additional information regarding sealed documents.

Under § 230.66.40(a) of the *Guide*, "the expense of specialized typesetting, layout, or binding of appellate or other legal briefs (including Supreme Court booklets) exceeding requirements for individuals represented under the CJA, regardless of the printing method utilized, is **not** reimbursable." (emphasis added) "The reasonable cost of laser printing, photocopying, or similar duplication expenses is," however, "reimbursable." *Id.* § 230.66.40(b).

The Supreme Court does not require the special booklet format when a petitioner is proceeding IFP. *See* S. Ct. R. 39.3. Instead, counsel may print their petition on 8.5x11 paper, stapling in the

top-left corner, and must mail an original and ten copies of the cert. petition and appendix. *See [Guide to Filing IFP Cases](#)*; S. Ct. R. 33.2. Expenses above the costs for production consistent with S. Ct. R. 39.3 will not be reimbursed.

Following this letter, you will receive a notice of your appointment in the eVoucher system. That will enable you to log into the eVoucher system and track your time and expenses in that system. To receive payment for your services at the close of the case you will submit your voucher electronically via eVoucher. Instructions for using eVoucher can be found on this court's website. Your voucher must be submitted electronically no later than 45 days after the final disposition of the appeal. *No further notice will be provided that a voucher is due.* Questions regarding your voucher may be directed to the Clerk's Office at 513-564-7041.

Finally, if you become aware that your client has financial resources not previously disclosed or is no longer eligible for appointed counsel under the Criminal Justice Act, please contact the Clerk or Chief Deputy for guidance.

Sincerely yours,

s/Cathryn Lovely
Opinions Deputy | CJA Attorney Appointment Coordinator
Direct Dial No. 513-564-7062

cc: Ms. Ann E. Filkins
Mr. Austin J. Hakes
Mr. Willie David Lark