

26-5794 - ORIGINAL
No. 26-5794

FILED
MAR 17 2026
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT, U.S.

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

James McDonald III — PETITIONER
(Your Name)

VS.

State of Michigan — 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):

☒ 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.

James McDonald

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

I, James McDonald III, 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 the past 12 months		Amount expected next month	
	You	Spouse	You	Spouse
Employment	\$ 40	\$ 0	\$ 40	\$ 0
Self-employment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Income from real property (such as rental income)	\$ 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 (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Disability (such as social security, insurance payments)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Unemployment payments	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Public-assistance (such as welfare)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Other (specify):	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total monthly income:	\$ 40	\$ 0	\$ 40	\$ 0

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
Wealthy Logistics LLC	1971 E Beltline,	12/07/2021	\$ 40
	Grand Rapids, Mi		\$
	49525		\$

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
Cell Staff	1715 N. Westshore	7/29/24-08/26/25	\$ 6,600
workman comp	Blvd, FL 33607	08/26/25-04/16/26	\$ 4,652-0
			\$

4. How much cash do you and your spouse have? \$ _____
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/savings total	\$	\$204.00
WMCU	\$ 588.76	\$
LMCU joint	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00

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

☐ Home Value _____	☐ Other real estate Value _____
☐ Motor Vehicle #1 Year, make & model _____ Value _____	☐ Motor Vehicle #2 Year, make & model _____ Value _____
☐ Other assets Description _____ Value _____	

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
unemployment	\$	\$ 2,120.00
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

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
MHP	daughter	14

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 (include lot rented for mobile home)	\$ 2,258.99	\$
Are real estate taxes included? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
Is property insurance included? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
Utilities (electricity, heating fuel, water, sewer, and telephone)	\$	\$ 355.00
Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)	\$	\$ 20.00
Food	\$	\$ 500.00
Clothing	\$	\$ 30.00
Laundry and dry-cleaning	\$	\$ 100.00
Medical and dental expenses	\$	\$ 60.00

	You	Your spouse
Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)	\$ _____	\$ 505.00
Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc.	\$ _____	\$ _____
Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
Homeowner's or renter's	\$ _____	\$ _____
Life	\$ _____	\$ _____
Health	\$ _____	\$ _____
Motor Vehicle	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other: <u>car insurance</u>	\$ _____	\$ 633.59
Taxes (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
(specify): _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Installment payments		
Motor Vehicle	\$ 660.28	\$ _____
Credit card(s)	\$ _____	\$ 400
Department store(s)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other: _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Alimony, maintenance, and support paid to others	\$ _____	\$ _____
Regular expenses for operation of business, profession, or farm (attach detailed statement)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other (specify): _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Total monthly expenses:	\$ 2,919.27	\$ 2,603.59

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? _____

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 am unable to pay due to finance hardship. My wife was injured at work and is currently unemployed fighting for unemployment benefits, resulting in a significant reduction in our household income. We are using our limited financial resources to cover essential living expenses, including housing, utilities, food, transportation, and medical expenses. Requiring us to pay the cost of this case would burden and make it difficult to meet our family's basic needs.

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

Executed on: 7/5/2026, 20

James McDonald III

(Signature)