

26-5887

ORIGINAL

No. _____

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

SARKIS SOOREN HAGOPIAN, Petitioner,

v.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, Respondent.

FILED

SEP 30 2026

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT, U.S.**MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS**

Petitioner requests leave under Rules 12.2 and 39 to file the accompanying certiorari petition without prepayment of costs and to proceed in forma pauperis. The petition concerns Appellate Division Nos. 30-2026-01564039-CL-MC-CJC and 30-2026-01563959-CL-MC-CJC, following transfer denials in G067102 and G067101.

Petitioner has no paid work, cash income, cash or account balance, or outstanding personal debt.

Immediate family supplies necessities and filing costs without repayment obligations. Historical legal expenses and contingent claims are disclosed separately from presently available funds.

On June 6, 2024, in underlying case 23WM09207, the court reviewed a Financial Declaration and appointed the Public Defender (Attachment A). Petitioner supplies a current financial declaration rather than relying solely on that appointment.

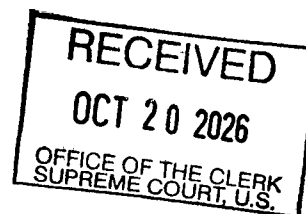
Other indigency-related requests and disposition:

Petitioner requested appointed appellate counsel on April 2, 2026, and filed a CR-105 financial statement on April 9. On April 24 the Appellate Division denied counsel in both appeals when issuing its orders to show cause (Attachment B). Those orders do not state a financial-ineligibility finding. Petitioner does not claim a separate appellate grant of IFP status.

Dated: September 30, 2026



Sarkis Sooren Hagopian, Petitioner, pro se
16797 Woodridge Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708
Telephone: (714) 580-5483



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

Sarkis Sooren Hagopian v. The People of the State of California

I, Sarkis Sooren Hagopian, am the petitioner. Because of my financial condition, I am unable to pay the costs of this case or provide security for them, and I believe I am entitled to redress. I have no spouse. Spouse entries are not applicable.

Amounts are in U.S. dollars. Estimates and unquantified family support are expressly identified. Review this declaration before signing.

1. Income during the past 12 months and expected next month

The figures below state my average monthly cash receipts during the past 12 months and the amounts expected next month. Direct family support is disclosed separately; \$0 cash does not mean no support.

Income source	Avg./mo. past 12 mos. You	Avg./mo. past 12 mos. Spouse	Next month You	Next month Spouse
Employment	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Self-employment / caregiving compensation	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Income from real property	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Interest and dividends	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Gifts / family cash support*	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Alimony	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Child support	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Retirement (Social Security, pensions, annuities)	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Disability payments	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Unemployment payments	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Public assistance	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
Other cash receipts*	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A
TOTAL CASH INCOME*	0.00	N/A	0.00	N/A

* My immediate family supplies food, housing, necessities, historical legal expenses, and current filing costs by direct payments on my behalf. No repayment is required. I receive no spending money. This noncash support is disclosed in items 8 and 10-12, not treated as nonexistent or as cash held by me.

Past-year cash gifts and other cash receipts: None. This answer does not exclude or deny the direct family-paid support described above.

1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is a summary of the work done by the various departments and the results of the various projects.

2. The second part of the report deals with the financial situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is a summary of the work done by the various departments and the results of the various projects.

3. The third part of the report deals with the social situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is a summary of the work done by the various departments and the results of the various projects.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the economic situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is a summary of the work done by the various departments and the results of the various projects.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the political situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is a summary of the work done by the various departments and the results of the various projects.

FINANCIAL DECLARATION — EMPLOYMENT AND ASSETS

2. Employment history during the past two years

I have no formal employment history during the past two years. My responsibilities have been unpaid caretaking. I receive no compensation or financial aid for that work. Gross monthly pay: \$0.

Other paid work during the past two years: None. Gross monthly pay from all work: \$0.00.

3. Spouse's employment history

Not applicable. I have no spouse.

4. Cash and accounts at financial institutions

Cash on hand: \$0.00. Spouse: N/A. My checking and savings balances are \$0.00.

Account type	My current balance	Spouse
Checking	0.00	N/A
Savings	0.00	N/A
Other financial / stored-fund accounts: none	0.00	N/A

Other bank, financial-institution, stored-value, investment, or similar accounts and balances: None; \$0.00.

5. Property and other assets

I own no real estate, vehicle, stocks, bonds, or other major holdings. I live in the house where my mother resides and do not own that house. I have no other assets apart from the disputed or contingent matters disclosed in item 6. Clothing and ordinary household furnishings are excluded from this list.

Asset	Description / ownership	Value
Home	None owned	0.00
Other real estate	None	0.00
Motor vehicles	None owned	0.00
Stocks, bonds, investments	None	0.00
Disputed claims / possible fee recovery	Disclosed in item 6	Not established
Other nonexcluded assets	None	0.00

FINANCIAL DECLARATION — CLAIMS AND EXPENSES

6. Persons, businesses, or organizations owing me money

The following matters are disclosed as disputed or contingent claims, not as established debts or cash presently available to me. Spouse: N/A. My current cash and account balances remain those stated in item 4.

Person / entity and claim	Amount / present status
City of Fountain Valley; County of Orange — government claims	Damages asserted; no fixed collectible value is established by the claim packages. No expected cash receipt is reported.
Grant Law — possible fee refund / trust-account reconciliation	A \$20,600 charge and separate \$10,300 card adjustment appear in the records. Permanence of the credit, any trust balance, and remaining refund amount are not established.
Other person or entity owing me money	None apart from the disclosed disputed / contingent claims; \$0.00 established.

The Grant Law status is unchanged: the \$20,600 charge, separate \$10,300 card adjustment, and unresolved reconciliation remain as previously disclosed. The January 2, 2026 notice does not establish a presently available trust refund or final refund entitlement. No new recovery or available cash is reported. See City claim PDF pp. 104–105 / County PDF pp. 60–61.

7. Persons relying on me for support

No child or adult relies on me for financial support. I have no spouse. I provide unpaid care, but the practical financial support comes from my immediate family, not from income or assets of my own.

8. Average monthly expenses — first part

My family supplies groceries and practical necessities directly, with no repayment obligation. Food supplied to me is approximately \$100–\$200 monthly; I personally pay \$0. I have no other regular personal expense obligations. Housing and household costs remain family-provided support, not expenses I pay or debts I owe. All spouse amounts: N/A.

Expense	Paid from my funds	Family-paid support / estimate
Housing / rent / mortgage	0.00	Housing supplied; amount not allocated
Real-estate taxes / property insurance included in housing?	N/A	N/A to my payments; no rent or mortgage obligation
Utilities, including telephone	0.00	Paid on my behalf; amount not quantified
Home maintenance	0.00	No personal obligation; no separate family amount allocated
Food	0.00	Approx. \$100–\$200 for food supplied to me
Clothing; laundry / dry-cleaning	0.00	No regular personal obligation; necessities supplied by family
Medical / dental	0.00	No regular personal obligation; necessities supplied by family

FINANCIAL DECLARATION — EXPENSES, CONTINUED

8. Average monthly expenses — continued

I have no debts, installment obligations, unpaid legal balances, or family-reimbursement obligations. The figures show payments from my own funds; they do not state that the household itself has no expenses.

Expense	My payment	Spouse
Transportation (not vehicle installment)	0.00	N/A
Recreation / entertainment / publications	0.00	N/A
Homeowner's or renter's insurance	0.00	N/A
Life insurance	0.00	N/A
Health insurance	0.00	N/A
Motor-vehicle insurance	0.00	N/A
Other insurance	0.00	N/A
Taxes not otherwise listed	0.00	N/A
Motor-vehicle installment	0.00	N/A
Credit-card installment	0.00	N/A
Department-store installment	0.00	N/A
Other installment	0.00	N/A
Alimony / maintenance / support to others	0.00	N/A
Business / profession / farm expenses	0.00	N/A
Other regular personal outlay	0.00	N/A
TOTAL PAID FROM MY OWN FUNDS	0.00	N/A

Housing and any associated household costs are supplied by family without a payment obligation on my part. Apart from my approximate \$100–\$200 food estimate, no reliable separate monthly value has been allocated to my share. I therefore do not invent a household-cost figure or treat this support as nonexistent.

9. Expected changes during the next 12 months

I expect no earnings, cash receipts, or income for my own spending. I expect family-provided support to continue. The disputed claims and fee-reconciliation issues in item 6 do not establish an expected recovery amount or date.

No major changes in income, expenses, assets, or liabilities are expected during the next 12 months.

FINANCIAL DECLARATION — ATTORNEY PAYMENTS

10. Attorney payments in connection with these matters

Yes, as to historical underlying-case expenses paid through my family. The table reproduces the documented gross charge/payment entries in the claim packages once. They are not current cash assets or outstanding debts. No attorney is being paid or promised payment for this Supreme Court petition, this IFP application, or any other current filing.

Attorney and contact printed in source records	Documented gross charge / payment and date
Markelz Law Group, PC 206 W. 4th St., Floor 3 Santa Ana, CA 92701 (714) 361-4188	10/24–25/2024: \$6,000.00 Initial criminal-defense / pretrial representation.
Eric D. Davis, Attorney at Law, APC 20955 Pathfinder Rd., Suite 100 Diamond Bar, CA 91765 (909) 861-8075	2/28/2025: \$600.00 3/2/2025: \$15,000.00 12/1/2025: \$15,000.00 3/2 and 3/4/2026: \$12,275.00 Subtotal of these entries: \$42,875.00.
Daryl D. Anthony 1810 North Broadway Santa Ana, CA 92706 (714) 541-6644	4/7/2025: \$5,000.00 Limited court appearance, discovery review, and advice.
The Leventhal Firm 40 E. Colorado Blvd., Suite C Pasadena, CA 91105 (626) 817-3860	7/26 and 7/28/2025: \$20,000.00 Receipts identify \$1,000 and \$19,000.
Grant Law / Richard L. Grant Former office: 15375 Barranca Pkwy., Suite A-208, Irvine, CA 92618 (949) 379-7172 Closure notice: P.O. Box 2490, Laguna Hills, CA 92653	10/2/2025: \$20,600.00 gross charge Separate \$10,300.00 account adjustment shown 1/1/2026; final reconciliation remains unresolved in the supplied records.

Gross attorney-fee entries: \$94,475.00. The January 15, 2026 replacement Davis agreement recites \$15,000 already deposited; it is not counted as another \$15,000 payment. The Grant adjustment is disclosed separately, not silently subtracted as a proven final refund.

Sources: City claim PDF pp. 74, 76, 78–79, 82–85, 91–100, 104–105; corresponding County PDF pp. 30, 32, 34–35, 38–41, 47–56, 60–61. Contacts are historical document identifiers, not a representation that each office remains open or represents me now.

Additional attorney payments or promises beyond the historical entries above: None. Current Supreme Court petition / IFP preparation attorney payments: \$0.00; no attorney payment is expected.

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FINANCIAL DECLARATION — SERVICES AND FUNDING

11. Payments to nonattorney service providers

Yes, as to historical filing/service charges and current copying/postage paid on my behalf by family. I prepare these papers myself. No new private legal-service provider is retained for this submission; the historical records below do not represent unpaid personal balances.

Provider / source	Documented amount and limitation
One Legal / InfoTrack 5341 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 310 Petaluma, CA 94954 (800) 938-8815 ext. 1	The claim summary lists \$4,337.73 in invoice rows for 4/10–8/6/2026. Entries marked “PYMNT” totaling \$235.20 are excluded from this cost total. Invoicing is not proof that every invoice is fully paid.
Direct Legal Support, Inc. 901 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 400 Monterey Park, CA 91754 (213) 483-4900	Historical August 17–18, 2026 court-filing order 15567636: \$175.00 service plus \$6.13 processing = \$181.13. Separately documented after the One Legal statement period. No unpaid balance is reported.

The One Legal records are City claim PDF pp. 101–103 / County PDF pp. 57–59 and are counted once. The historical Direct Legal order is separately identified in the previously supplied portal record. Neither entry is an outstanding debt. No additional current legal-service provider or paid preparation service is identified.

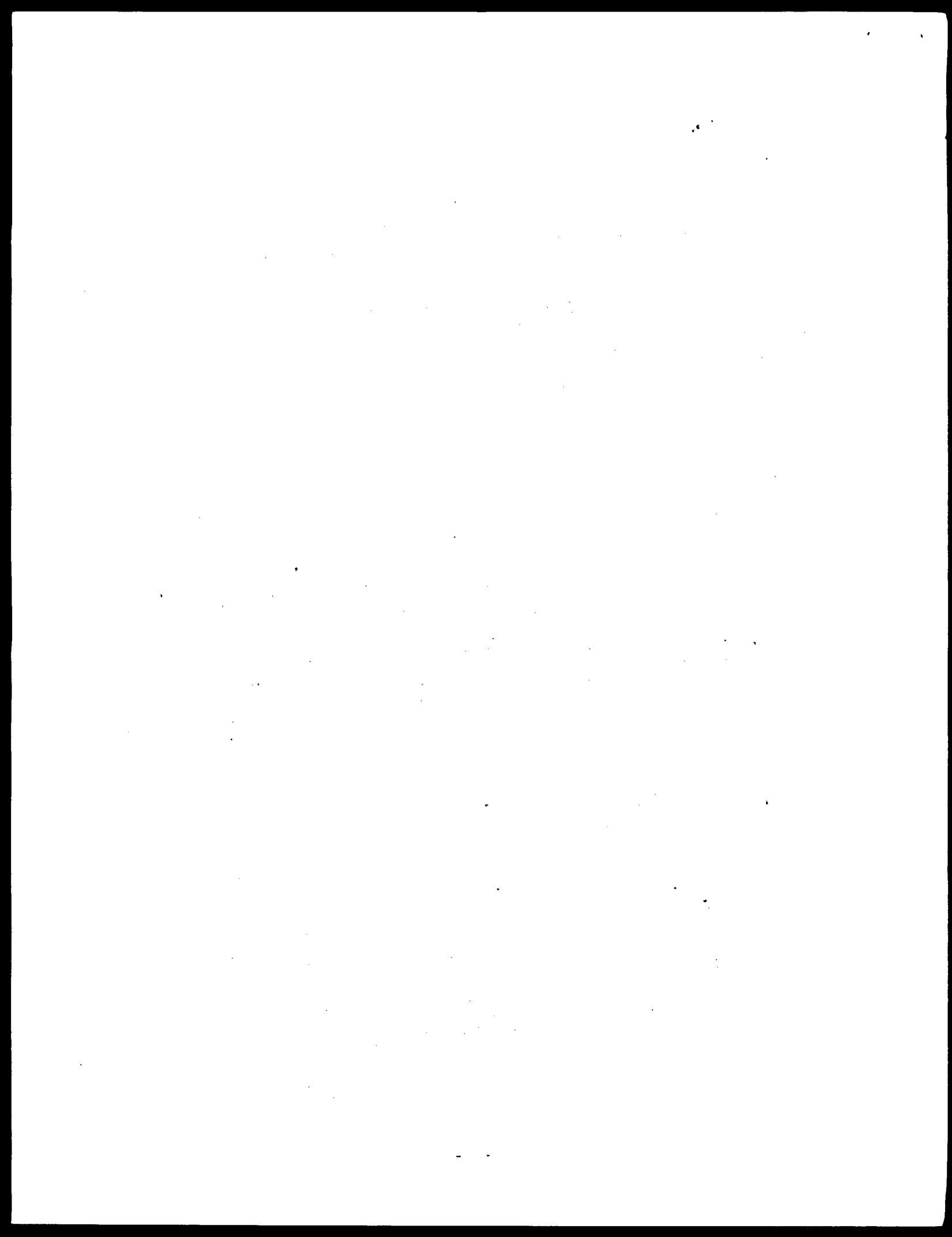
Current submission: I estimate about \$23 for an ordinary USPS Priority Mail package and expect at least three mailings. Two ordinary service packages would be about \$46 on that assumption. The Court-bound package will include the original and ten copies; its size and postage are not yet known. Copying costs are also not yet priced. Family will pay these costs directly; this is a preliminary estimate, not a quoted rate or a fixed \$69 total.

12. Other facts explaining inability to pay

I live in the house where my mother resides. Immediate family members provide the practical necessities and food through household grocery expenses. My estimated \$100–\$200 monthly food cost is supplied by family, not paid from my own funds.

My family also pays or will pay copying, postage, and other practical filing costs. No repayment is required. I receive no cash for spending and have no other income or receipts.

Living in the family household or being an authorized user on a family card does not give me ownership of the residence or family account balances. I hold no funds in those accounts.



FINANCIAL DECLARATION — EXPLANATION AND SIGNATURE

12. Other facts explaining inability to pay — continued

I have no paid work, spouse, or financial dependents. My time is devoted to unpaid caregiving and these cases. The time required by the cases increased substantially around mid-September 2025. My caregiving includes helping my mother with blood-pressure concerns after I learned on September 8, 2023, of her heart murmur and leaking heart valves. This describes my circumstances, not an independent medical opinion.

My immediate family funded the historical legal expenses. I have no obligation to reimburse family or creditors and no unpaid attorney balance. The claim schedules remain historical records of charges, payments, credits, and disputed recoveries; their gross amounts are not present personal liabilities.

To clarify any earlier reservation about allocation or reimbursement in the claim packages: my present repayment obligations are \$0.00. No current family loan, creditor balance, or unpaid legal fee is asserted in this declaration.

Current personal debts, creditor balances, unpaid attorney fees, and family-reimbursement obligations: None. Total outstanding balance: \$0.00. Required monthly debt payments: \$0.00.

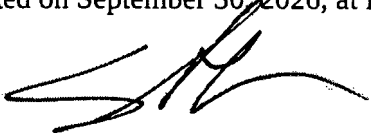
Family assistance is direct, nonrepayable support. It is not a loan to me and does not create a repayment obligation. I receive no cash gifts or other cash receipts for personal spending.

Grant Law credit / trust-reconciliation status: No change from item 6. No additional payment, new available trust refund, or final reconciliation is reported. The \$10,300 adjustment is not treated as a new cash receipt or additional personal debt.

The City and County claims remain disputed demands, not established collectible awards. I have no expected claim proceeds for current spending. Apart from these disclosed contingent matters, I have no other assets or accounts. The prior June 2024 appointment and April 2026 counsel denials are provided as historical records, not a present ruling on this IFP motion.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on September 30, 2026, at Fountain Valley, California.



Sarkis Sooren Hagopian, Petitioner, pro se

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF ORANGE

MINUTES

Case : 23WM09207 M A

Name : Hagopian, Sarkis Sooren

Date of Action	Seq Nbr	Code	Text
05/30/24	26	DSORC	Court orders defendant is to remain released on own recognizance on condition(s): Comply with terms of Protective Orde.
06/04/24	1	CLTRF	Calendar Line for PT SC transferred from W6 on 06/04/2024 at 08:30 AM to W14 on 06/04/2024 at 08:30 AM.
	2	HHELD	Hearing held on 06/04/2024 at 08:30:00 AM in Department W14 for Pre Trial Settlement Conference.
	3	OFJUD	Judicial Officer: Scott Van Camp, Judge
	4	OFJA	Clerk: M. C. Hernandez
	5	OFBAL	Bailiff: S. Huang
	6	TRPRT	Proceedings recorded electronically. The recording equipment is functioning normally, and all of the proceedings in open court between designated times of day will be recorded, except for such matters as were expressly directed to be "off the record" or as otherwise specified.
	7	APDDA	People represented by Alysha Tseng, Deputy District Attorney, present.
	8	APDPP	Defendant present in Court in propria persona.
	9	ADVISE	Defendant advised of the following:
	10	ADRTA	- The right to an Attorney.
	11	CLCON2	Pre Trial re: Settlement Conference continued to 06/06/2024 at 08:30 AM in Department W14 at request of Defense.
	12	WVTGN	Defendant enters general time waiver.
	13	DSORC	Court orders defendant is to remain released on own recognizance on condition(s): Comply with terms of Protective Order.
	14	TXKPW	Keep with companion cases(s) 24WM01186.
06/06/24	1	HHELD	Hearing held on 06/06/2024 at 08:30:00 AM in Department W14 for Pre Trial Settlement Conference.
	2	OFJUD	Judicial Officer: Scott Van Camp, Judge
	3	OFJA	Clerk: R. Nagle
	4	OFBAL	Bailiff: S. Huang

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF ORANGE

MINUTES

Case : 23WM09207 M A

Name : Hagopian, Sarkis Sooren

Date of Action	Seq Nbr	Code	Text
06/06/24	5	TRPRT	Proceedings recorded electronically. The recording equipment is functioning normally, and all of the proceedings in open court between designated times of day will be recorded, except for such matters as were expressly directed to be "off the record" or as otherwise specified.
	6	APDDA	People represented by Emma Nadia Dosky-McQuade, Deputy District Attorney, present.
	7	APDPP	Defendant present in Court in propria persona.
	10	FIFDC	Financial Declaration reviewed and filed.
	11	APDPD	Court appoints Public Defender to represent Defendant.
	12	APDWPD	Defendant present in court with counsel Heather Weir, Public Defender.
	13	CPCDD	Copy of Original Complaint given to defense counsel.
	14	CPACK	Counsel acknowledges receipt of the charging document.
	15	CLCON2	Pre Trial re: Settlement Conference continued to 07/19/2024 at 08:30 AM in Department W6 at request of Defense.
	16	DFOTR	Defendant ordered to appear.
	17	WVTGN	Defendant enters general time waiver.
	18	PLCJN	Counsel joins in waivers.
	19	DFOTR	Defendant ordered to appear.
	20	DSORC	Court orders defendant is to remain released on own recognizance on condition(s): Comply with terms of Protective Order.
06/17/24	1	CLADD	At the request of Court, case calendared on 07/01/24 at 08:30 AM in W4 for PT SC.
06/26/24	1	FIIRD	Informal Request for Discovery filed.
07/01/24	1	HHEUD	Hearing held on 07/01/2024 at 08:30:00 AM in Department W4 for Pre Trial Settlement Conference
	2	OFJUD	Judicial Officer: Claudia Alvarez, Judge
	3	OFJA	Clerk: J. Aguilar
	4	OFBAL	Bailiff: M. McLeod

2. The second part of the document focuses on the implementation of internal controls to prevent fraud and ensure the accuracy of financial data. It outlines the key components of a robust internal control system, including segregation of duties, authorization procedures, and regular monitoring and evaluation.

3. The third part of the document addresses the challenges faced by organizations in managing their financial resources effectively. It discusses the importance of budgeting, forecasting, and cost management, and provides practical advice on how to overcome common financial management challenges.

4. The fourth part of the document explores the role of technology in modern accounting and finance. It discusses the benefits of using accounting software and the importance of staying up-to-date with the latest technological advancements in the field.

5. The fifth part of the document concludes by emphasizing the importance of continuous learning and professional development for accounting and finance professionals. It encourages individuals to stay current in their knowledge and skills to meet the evolving demands of the industry.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF ORANGE
CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER

MINUTE ORDER

DATE: 04/24/2026

TIME: 09:00:00 AM

DEPT: C01

JUDICIAL OFFICER PRESIDING: Appellate Panel

CLERK: Y. Mendoza

REPORTER/ERM:

BAILIFF/COURT ATTENDANT:

CASE NO: 30-2026-01564039-CL-MC-CJC CASE INIT.DATE: 04/22/2026

CASE TITLE: **People of the State of California vs. Hagopian**

CASE CATEGORY: Civil - Limited CASE TYPE: Misc Complaints - Other

EVENT ID/DOCUMENT ID: 74835575

EVENT TYPE: Motion/Request - Other (Appeals)

APPEARANCES

No Appearance by all parties

Appellate Panel Judge(s):

Honorable Kimberly A. Knill, Presiding Judge

Trial Court Case Number: 24WM07369

The application for appointment of counsel is denied.

Appellant is ordered to show cause why this appeal should not be dismissed for lack of appellate jurisdiction. (Pen. Code, § 1466, subd. (b).)

Each party may file and serve a supplemental brief not exceeding five pages in length, no later than May 11, 2026, discussing why this appeal should not be dismissed for lack of appellate jurisdiction.

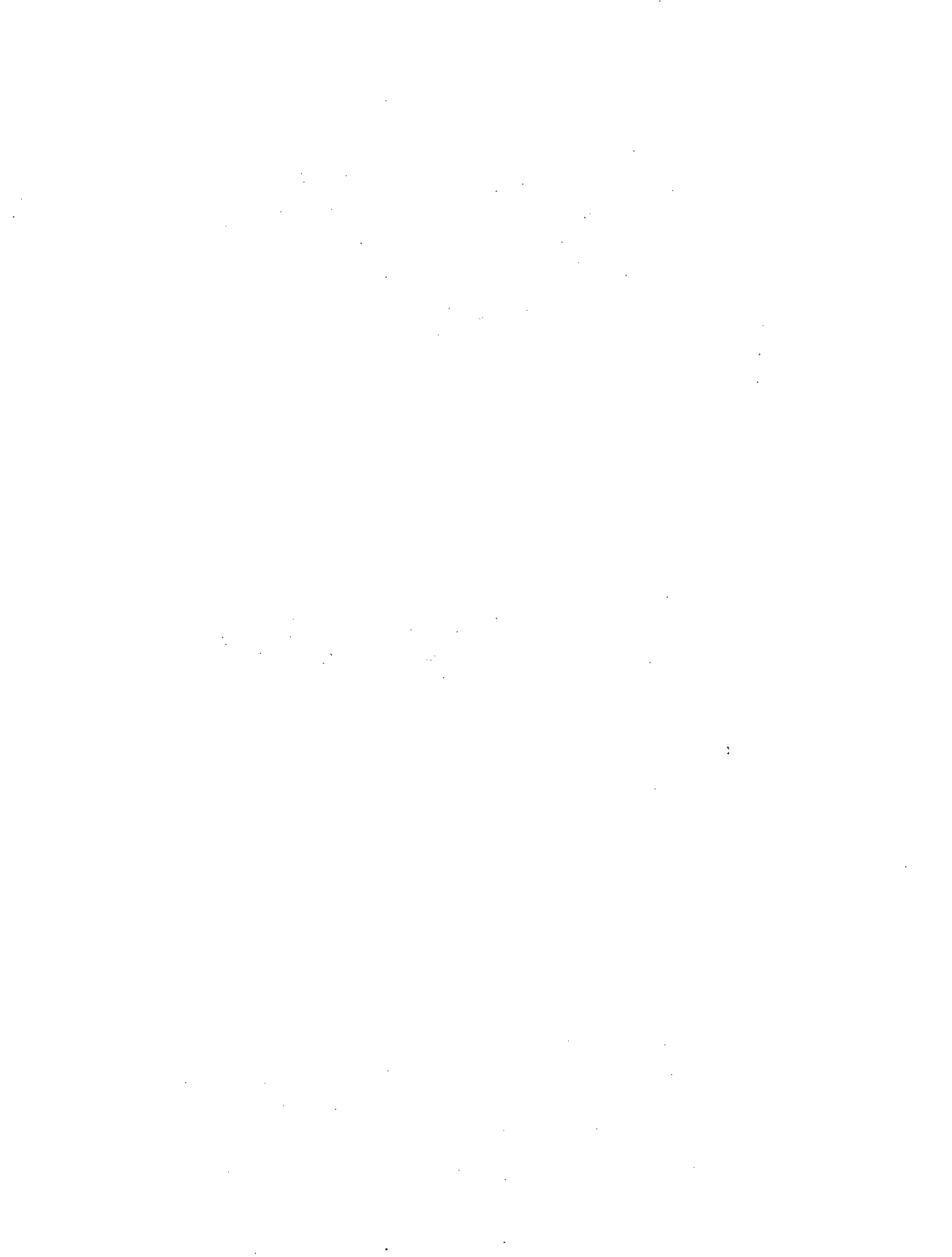
DATE: 04/24/2026

MINUTE ORDER

DEPT: C01

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF ORANGE
CENTRAL JUSTICE CENTER

MINUTE ORDER

DATE: 04/24/2026

TIME: 09:00:00 AM

DEPT: C01

JUDICIAL OFFICER PRESIDING: Appellate Panel

CLERK: Y. Mendoza

REPORTER/ERM:

BAILIFF/COURT ATTENDANT:

CASE NO: 30-2026-01563959-CL-MC-CJC CASE INIT.DATE: 04/22/2026

CASE TITLE: **People of the State of California vs. Hagopian**

CASE CATEGORY: Civil - Limited CASE TYPE: Misc Complaints - Other

EVENT ID/DOCUMENT ID: 74835384

EVENT TYPE: Motion/Request - Other (Appeals)

APPEARANCES

No Appearance by all parties

Appellate Panel Judge(s):

Honorable Kimberly A. Knill, Presiding Judge

Trial Court Case Number: 23WM09207

The application for appointment of counsel is denied.

Appellant is ordered to show cause why this appeal should not be dismissed for lack of appellate jurisdiction. (Pen. Code, § 1466, subd. (b).)

Each party may file and serve a supplemental brief not exceeding five pages in length, no later than May 11, 2026, discussing why this appeal should not be dismissed for lack of appellate jurisdiction.

DATE: 04/24/2026

MINUTE ORDER

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DEPT: C01

Calendar No.

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