No. 26-5992 ORIGINAL

Supreme Court, U.S.
FILED
MAY 26 2026
OFFICE OF THE CLERK

IN THE

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

(Pro-Se) Claude Stevens — PETITIONER
(Your Name)

VS.

State of NORTH CAROLINA Et.al. — RESPONDENT(S)
~~Court of Appeals~~

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):

[redacted] # 20-421
State of North Carolina Appeal No. [redacted] ([redacted])

U.S. District Court of Appeals No. 5-23-HC-02040-M-RJ.

☐ 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.

Claude S. Stevens
(Signature)

RECEIVED
OCT 15 2026
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT, U.S.

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

I, Claude Stevens, 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	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Self-employment	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Income from real property (such as rental income)	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Interest and dividends	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Gifts	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Alimony	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Child Support	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Retirement (such as social security, pensions, annuities, insurance)	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Disability (such as social security, insurance payments)	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Unemployment payments	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Public-assistance (such as welfare)	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Other (specify): _____	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Total monthly income:	$ 0	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A

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
N/A	—	—	$ 0
N/A	—	—	$ 0
N/A	—	—	$ 0

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
N/A	—	—	$ 0
N/A	—	—	$ 0
N/A	—	—	$ 0

4. How much cash do you and ~~your spouse~~ have? $ 0
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
N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
N/A	$ 0	$ N/A

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

☐ Home
Value N/A

☐ Other real estate
Value N/A

☐ Motor Vehicle #1
Year, make & model N/A
Value _____

☐ Motor Vehicle #2
Year, make & model N/A
Value _____

☐ Other assets
Description N/A
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
0	$ 0	$ 0
0	$ 0	$ 0
0	$ 0	$ 0

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
N/A	—	—
N/A	—	—
N/A	—	—

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.

I am incarcerated since 2016
I am also A.D.A.

	You	Your spouse
Rent or home-mortgage payment (include lot rented for mobile home)	$ 0	$ 0
Are real estate taxes included? ☐ Yes ☐ No Is property insurance included? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
Utilities (electricity, heating fuel, water, sewer, and telephone)	$ 0	$ 0
Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep)	$ 0	$ 0
Food	$ 0	$ 0
Clothing	$ 0	$ 0
Laundry and dry-cleaning	$ 0	$ 0
Medical and dental expenses	$ 0	$ 0

	You	Your spouse
Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)	$ 0	$ 0
Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc.	$ 0	$ 0
Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
Homeowner's or renter's	$ 0	$ 0
Life	$ 0	$ 0
Health	$ 0	$ 0
Motor Vehicle	$ 0	$ 0
Other: _____	$ 0	$ 0
Taxes (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
(specify): _____	$ 0	$ 0
Installment payments		
Motor Vehicle	$ 0	$ 0
Credit card(s)	$ 0	$ 0
Department store(s)	$ 0	$ 0
Other: _____	$ 0	$ 0
Alimony, maintenance, and support paid to others	$ 0	$ 0
Regular expenses for operation of business, profession, or farm (attach detailed statement)	$ 0	$ 0
Other (specify): _____	$ 0	$ 0
Total monthly expenses:	$ 0	$ 0

Kelly M King

KELLY M KING
NOTARY PUBLIC
JOHNSTON COUNTY, N.C.
My Commission Expires 08/19/2026

Wayne Co. - NC
7-28-2026

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 incarcerated since 2016, and I am catagorized as M.D.D. in the prison system.

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

Executed on: July 28, 2026

Claude Stevens
(Signature)

Wayne Co. NC
Claude Stevens signed before me on 7-28-2026. My commission expires 8/19/2026

KELLY M KING
NOTARY PUBLIC
JOHNSTON COUNTY, N.C.
My Commission Expires 08/19/2026