No. ____

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# In the
# Supreme Court of the United States

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HATCHET M. SPEED,

*Petitioner*,

*v.*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

*Respondent*.

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

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Petitioner, Hatchet M. Speed, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 39.1, respectfully moves for leave to file the accompanying petition for writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court of the United States without payment of costs and with filing the reduced number of copies submitted; and to proceed in forma pauperis.

Petitioner was declared indigent and was appointed Federal Public Defender representation by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act 18 U.S.C. § 3006A on September 7, 2022. (Oral and Minute Order; Appendix E, at 033a). He liquidated his modest 401(k) retirement account to briefly retain counsel in his Fourth Circuit appeal although for income versus living expenses as previously computed at the district court, he remained eligible for appointed counsel.

His financial income situation is not improved and his funds remain depleted. Present counsel appears here Pro Bono.

Wherefore, Petitioner Hatchet M. Speed respectfully requests that this Court grant leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

Dated October 30, 2026

Respectfully submitted.

/s/ Carolyn Stewart
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