26-6184

ORIGINAL

No. _____

IN THE

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

FILED
JUL 28 2026
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT, U.S.

In Re Teena Caldwell PETITIONER
(Your Name)

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED *IN FORMA PAUPERIS*

The petitioner asks leave to file the attached petition for a writ of mandamus 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): Middle district of Tennessee Bk. Court; 6th Circuit apellate California 9th Circuit

☐ 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.

(Signature)

RECEIVED
OCT 21 2026
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT, U.S.

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

I, [illegible], 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)	$ 650	$ 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): Probation Collections	$ 92.98	$ N/A	$ 0	$ N/A
Total monthly income:	$ 742.98	$ 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
			$
			$

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			$ N/A
			$
			$

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
Wells Fargo ~~checking~~ Savings	$ 770.03	$ N/A
Wells Fargo checking	$ 126.33	$ N/A
SESLOC checking	$ 950	$ 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 _____
Value N/A

☑ Other assets
Description Criminal Restitution $92.98 paid each month
Value $150,000

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
Hosea Gordon Gardner	$ 150,000	$
John Preston Thompson	$ 40,000	$
Phillip Gardner	$ 50,000	$

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		

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) Rent Are real estate taxes included? ☑ Yes ☐ No Is property insurance included? ☐ Yes ☐ No	$ 600	$
Utilities (electricity, heating fuel, water, sewer, and telephone) included	$ 0	$
Home maintenance (repairs and upkeep) included	$ 0	$
Food	$ 150	$
Clothing	$ 90	$
Laundry and dry-cleaning	$ 0	$
Medical and dental expenses	$ -100	$

	You	Your spouse
Transportation (not including motor vehicle payments)	$ 0	$
Recreation, entertainment, newspapers, magazines, etc.	$ 0	$
Insurance (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
Homeowner's or renter's	$ 0	$
Life	$ 0	$
Health (medicaid already deducted from SS. medicare)	$ 0	$
Motor Vehicle	$ 0	$
Other: _____	$ -	$ -
Taxes (not deducted from wages or included in mortgage payments)		
(specify): _____	$ 0	$
Installment payments		
Motor Vehicle	$ 0	$
Credit card(s)	$ 0	$
Department store(s)	$ 0	$
Other: _____	$ 0	$
Alimony, maintenance, and support paid to others	$ 0	$ -
Regular expenses for operation of business, profession, or farm (attach detailed statement)	$ 0	$ -
Other (specify): _____	$ 0	$
Total monthly expenses:	$ 870	$

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.

Hoping to have the automatic Medicaid deduction of $250 reimbursed.

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? 0

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? 0

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 waiting to recieve wage garnishment if it is granted from Philip Gordon.

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

Executed on: August 15th., 2026

(Signature)

No. _____

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

IN RE TEENA COLEBROOK, PETITIONER

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS

Petitioner Teena Colebrook respectfully moves this Court, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 39, for leave to file the accompanying Petition for Writ of Mandamus without prepayment of costs and to proceed in forma pauperis.

Petitioner has previously been granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis in federal proceedings in Tennessee and California. Petitioner is proceeding pro se and has not retained counsel for this proceeding.

Petitioner submits with this Motion her completed and signed Affidavit or Declaration in the form prescribed by Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure Form 4. The declaration reflects Petitioner's limited income, financial resources, expenses, and non-liquid judgment interests.

Beginning in December 2025, Petitioner's full monthly Social Security benefit before deductions is $853.40. Social Security deducts $202.90 per month for medical insurance premiums, resulting in a regular monthly Social Security payment of $650.00 after the required rounding to the whole dollar. Petitioner is seeking reinstatement or reimbursement relating to the Medicare premium deduction, but the outcome is uncertain; she therefore reports only the $650.00 actually received.

Petitioner previously received approximately $92.98 per month through criminal restitution collections administered by the probation department. Those payments stopped after August 2026 when the obligated party ceased making payments following the end of her court-ordered probation. The matter has been referred to the taxing authority for further investigation and possible collection, but the probation department has been unable to advise Petitioner whether or when payments will resume. Accordingly, Petitioner is not presently receiving restitution payments and does not include them as current monthly income. Petitioner's present monthly income is therefore approximately $650.00 from Social Security. The restitution judgment has a stated face value of approximately $150,000, but it is not cash or a liquid asset. The criminal case involves approximately 69 victims, collection remains uncertain, and Petitioner has no reasonable expectation of receiving the full face amount.

Petitioner's presently identified liquid bank balances are approximately $270.03 in Wells Fargo savings, $126.35 in Wells Fargo checking, and $950.00 in SESLOC checking. Her regular monthly expenses include approximately $600 rent, $150 food, $20 clothing, and $100 medical and dental expenses, totaling approximately $870 per month.

Petitioner also holds judgments or claims against Andrea Bowen Gardner, John Preston Thompson, and Philip Gardner. Those amounts are disputed, subject to collection limitations, or

otherwise not presently available as liquid resources. Their face amounts should not be treated as cash available to pay Supreme Court costs.

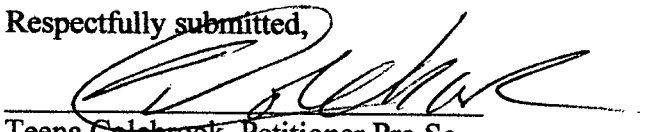
Petitioner respectfully submits that the governing standard does not require absolute destitution. In Adkins v. E.I. duPont de Nemours & Co., 335 U.S. 331, 339 (1948), Justice Black, writing for this Court, explained that a litigant need not be "absolutely destitute" to obtain the benefit of the in forma pauperis statute. The Court held that an affidavit is sufficient where the litigant cannot pay or give security for costs and still provide herself and her dependents with the necessities of life. Congress intended that no person be denied the opportunity to pursue an action in federal court solely because poverty makes payment or security for costs impossible. Id. at 342. Petitioner's circumstances fall squarely within that principle. Her presently available monthly income is approximately $650.00, while her stated regular monthly expenses are approximately $870. Her modest bank balances and uncertain, non-liquid judgment and restitution interests do not provide an ordinary source from which Supreme Court costs can be paid without impairing her ability to meet basic living expenses which she struggles to manage.

Petitioner does not seek special treatment because of her financial circumstances. She asks only that lack of financial resources not prevent consideration of her Petition under the same substantive standards applicable to other litigants.

Petitioner further respectfully requests that, should she prevail, taxable costs be assessed as permitted by law and the Rules of this Court.

For these reasons, and based upon the accompanying Form 4 Affidavit or Declaration, Petitioner respectfully requests leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

Respectfully submitted,



Teena Colebrook, Petitioner Pro Se
6135 Alta Mira Lane
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
(310) 420-0508
tc4gold@gmail.com

Date: November 9th, 2026

No. _____

IN THE

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

IN RE TEENA COLEBROOK, PETITIONER

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION CLARIFYING FORM 4 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

I, Teena Colebrook, submit this supplemental declaration to make the handwritten entries on my Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure Form 4 completely clear. This supplement does not withdraw the signed Form 4; it clarifies the amounts stated there and my current expected monthly income.

1. Social Security / retirement income. Beginning in December 2025, my full monthly Social Security benefit before deductions is $853.40. Social Security deducts $202.90 each month for medical insurance premiums. My regular monthly Social Security payment actually received is $650.00 after the required whole-dollar rounding. I expect approximately $650.00 in Social Security income next month unless the deduction changes.

2. Other income. I previously received approximately $92.98 per month through probation collections on a criminal restitution judgment. Those payments stopped after August 2026 when the obligated party ceased making payments following the end of her court-ordered probation. The matter has been referred to the taxing authority for further investigation and possible collection. The probation department has been unable to advise me whether or when payments will resume.

3. Total expected monthly income. Because I am not presently receiving restitution payments, my current expected monthly income is approximately $650.00 from Social Security, unless the Social Security or Medicare deduction changes.

4. Bank balances. My presently identified balances are approximately $270.03 in Wells Fargo savings, $126.35 in Wells Fargo checking, and $950.00 in SESLOC checking.

5. Restitution interest. The criminal restitution award has a stated face value of approximately $150,000. It is not cash or a liquid asset. The criminal case involves approximately 69 victims; collection is uncertain and may continue for many years; and I have no reasonable expectation that I will receive the full face amount. I am not presently receiving payments through probation collections. The matter has been referred to the taxing authority for further investigation and possible collection, but I have not been advised whether or when payments may resume.

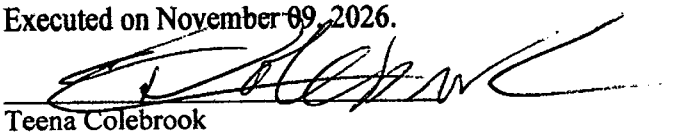
6. Persons owing money to me. My Form 4 identifies Andrea Bowen Gardner as owing more than approximately $150,000 in connection with the criminal judgment, John Preston Thompson as owing approximately $40,000, and Philip Gardner as owing approximately $50,000. These are judgments or claims, not cash available to me, and collectability is uncertain.

7. Monthly expenses. My presently stated regular expenses are approximately $600 rent, $150 food, $20 clothing, and $100 medical and dental expenses, for a total of approximately $870 per month which petitioner struggles to manage each month.

8. Medicare deduction. I am seeking reinstatement or reimbursement relating to the $202.90 monthly Medicare premium deduction, but the outcome is uncertain. I have therefore not treated any possible reimbursement as presently available income.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct under 28 U.S.C. § 1746.

Executed on November 09, 2026.



Teena Colebrook
Petitioner Pro Se

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
WASHINGTON, DC 20543-0001

November 2, 2026

Teena Colebrook
6135 Alta Mira Lane
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

RE: In Re Teena Colebrook
No: 26M16

Dear Ms. Colebrook:

Your petition for rehearing is returned herewith. The Rules of the Court make no provision for a rehearing of an order denying a motion to seal.

On October 5, 2026, the Court declined to seal your motion for leave to proceed in forma pauperis and the accompanying affidavit. You may still proceed with the petition for mandamus, if you follow the instructions in the letter from this Office dated October 5, 2026, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

Sincerely,
Scott S. Harris, Clerk
By: LeWood
Laurie Wood
(202) 479-3031

Enclosures