No.

IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

JAMES ARTHUR MEEKS, III,
Petitioner,

v.

TONY RAY, DEPUTY, FANNIN COUNTY SHERRIF'S OFFICE, ET AL.,
Respondents.

APPLICATION FOR A 37-DAY EXTENSION OF TIME WITHIN WHICH TO FILE A PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

Application to the Honorable Samuel A. Alito, Jr.,
as Circuit Justice for the Fifth Circuit

Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 13.5, Applicant James Arthur Meeks, III, hereby requests a 37-day extension of time, to and including December 23, 2026, within which to file a petition for a writ of certiorari.

1. The decision below is *James Arthur Meeks, III v. Tony Ray, Deputy, Fannin County Sheriff's Office et al.*, No. 25-40542 (5th Cir. 2026). The Fifth Circuit issued an order denying Meeks's motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* based on the Court's interpretation of the PLRA's three-strikes provision, 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g), on August 17, 2026. App. A. Unless extended, Applicant's time to seek certiorari in this Court expires November 16, 2026. Applicant is filing this application at least

ten days before that date. *See* S. Ct. R. 13.5. This Court's jurisdiction would be invoked under 28 U.S.C. § 1254(1).

2. Good cause exists for a 37-day extension. An extension is justified by the press of business on numerous other pending matters. Counsel for Meeks is responsible for an opening brief due November 3, 2026, in *Micron Technology, Inc. v. Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd.*, No. 26-2001 (Fed. Cir.); a response and cross-appeal brief due November 9, 2026, in *Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd. v. Micron Technology, Inc.*, No. 26-1161, -1336 (Fed. Cir.); a response brief due November 13, 2026, in *Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd. v. Micron Technology, Inc.*, Nos. 26-1502, -1503 (Fed. Cir.); a response brief due November 23, 2026, in *Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd. v. Micron Technology, Inc.*, No. 26-1961 (Fed. Cir.); a reply brief due November 30, 2026, in *Micron Technology, Inc. v. Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd.*, Nos. 26-1649, -1650 (Fed. Cir.); a reply brief due December 3, 2026, in *Micron Technology, Inc. v. Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd.*, No. 26-1596 (Fed. Cir.); a reply brief due December 9, 2026, in *Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd. v. Micron Technology, Inc.*, No. 26-1600 (Fed. Cir.); an opening brief due December 14, 2026, in *Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd. v. Micron Technology, Inc.*, Nos. 26-2223, -2228 (Fed. Cir.); and an opening brief due December 14, 2026, in *Yangtze Memory Technologies Company, Ltd. v. Micron Technology, Inc.*, No. 26-2236 (Fed. Cir.).

3. In addition, an extension is warranted because this case presents an important question regarding the scope of the Prison Litigation Reform Act—whether

the Act's "three strikes" provision, 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g), bars a prisoner from appealing *in forma pauperis* a third qualifying district-court dismissal. This Court held in *Coleman v. Tollefson*, 575 U.S. 532 (2015), that the PLRA's three-strikes provision bars a prisoner whose third strike is still pending on appeal from proceeding *in forma pauperis* in unrelated, newly filed district court actions. *Id.* at 541. But it expressly left open the question whether that logic extends to an appeal of the third-strike dismissal itself—that is, whether the statute affords "a prisoner in forma pauperis status with respect to an appeal from a *third* qualifying dismissal." *Id.* ("Coleman is not here appealing from a third-strike trial-court dismissal … If and when the situation that Coleman hypothesizes does arise, the courts can consider the problem in context."). That question has divided the federal circuits, as the published order below acknowledged. *See* App. A at 2.

4. A 37-day extension would move the due date for the petition from November 16 to December 23, 2026.

5. For the foregoing reasons, Applicant hereby requests that an extension of time be granted, up to and including December 23, 2026, within which to file a petition for certiorari.

November 3, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Robbie Manhas

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