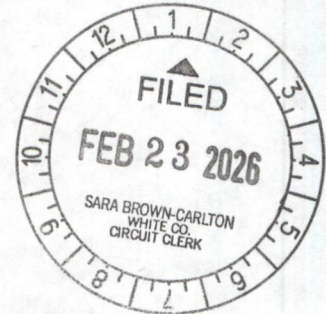


TRULINCS 07405510 - LYNCH, JASON M - Unit: ERE-D-A

730V-24-287

SUBJECT: RE: IFP affidavit Account status
DATE: 01/18/2026 06:36:03 PM



Re: Jason Matthew Lynch Reg. No. 07405-510
Certified Inmate Trust Account Statement

I, the undersigned Case Manager, hereby certify that the following financial information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge for the inmate listed above:

Inmate Name: Jason Matthew Lynch
Register Number: 07405-510
Institution: FCI EL Reno

1. Current Trust Account Balance:
\$ 158.09

2. Last Deposit Amount:
\$ 150.00

3. Average Monthly Deposit Amount:
\$ _____

4. Inmate Savings Account Balance:
\$ 150.00

5. UNICOR/Work Pay for Last Month:
\$ 128.77

6. Financial Responsibility Program (FRP):

FRP Status: PART

FRP Payment Amount Per Check: \$ 64.38

Total Number of FRP Payments Made: 12

I certify under penalty of perjury that the above information is accurate and complete.

Staff Signature: J. Cullen
Printed Name & Title: J. Cullen, Case Manager
Date: 1-20-2026

Jason M Lynch

J.

[Signature]

notary 1-20-26



BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS AND MEMORANDUM OF LAW

JASON MATTHEW LYNCH, Reg. No. 07405-510, Plaintiff,

Case No.

PLAINTIFF'S BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS AND MEMORANDUM OF LAW

Plaintiff Jason Matthew Lynch ("Lynch"), a federal prisoner (Reg. No. 07405-510), respectfully submits this Brief and Memorandum of Law in support of his Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis ("IFP"). Although Lynch's account statement reflects deposits totaling approximately \$3,500 over six months, that figure is not proof of ability to pay filing fees. The controlling question is whether Lynch can pay the required fees without sacrificing the basic necessities of life. Here, Lynch cannot. His account statement shows that over the same period his prison cost-of-living expenses were approximately \$3,495, leaving him effectively without discretionary funds. His weekly resources (approximately \$100-\$125) are needed to survive: to obtain nutritionally adequate food and medically safer alternatives given his low CD4/immune-compromised status, and to purchase basic hygiene items such as soap, toothpaste, deodorant, and related necessities.

Federal law does not require a litigant to be "absolutely destitute" to qualify for IFP status, and the Prison Litigation Reform Act ("PLRA") expressly prevents courts from barring suit merely because a prisoner lacks the means to pay an initial partial fee. For these reasons, Lynch respectfully requests the Court grant his IFP motion and assess payments strictly as authorized by 28 U.S.C. § 1915.

I. RELEVANT LEGAL STANDARDS

A. IFP is granted when paying the fee would require foregoing necessities

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a), a court may authorize commencement of a civil action without prepayment of fees by a person who submits an affidavit showing inability to pay. The Supreme Court's guiding standard is that an applicant need not be "absolutely destitute," but must show he cannot pay the filing fee and still provide himself with the necessities of life. *Adkins v. E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co.*, 335 U.S. 331, 339-40 (1948). Courts routinely apply *Adkins* by asking whether payment would force a litigant to choose between litigation and life necessities.

B. The PLRA requires assessment of fees but does not permit denial of access for inability to pay

For prisoners, the PLRA modifies the fee mechanism, not the courthouse door. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1), if IFP is granted the court assesses an initial partial filing fee based on the prisoner's account, then monthly payments thereafter. But Congress included a critical protection:

> "In no event shall a prisoner be prohibited from bringing a civil action for the reason that the prisoner has no assets and no means by which to pay the initial partial filing fee."

28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4).

Thus, even where the court calculates an initial fee, the statute forbids denying the case if the prisoner lacks the means to pay it.

C. Monthly payments are capped and cannot exceed the statute

After the initial fee, the statute caps collection at 20% of monthly income (as defined in the statute), collected when the account exceeds \$10. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2). The Supreme Court has confirmed that the PLRA requires simultaneous collection for multiple cases (each case can trigger a 20% assessment), but still only in the manner authorized by § 1915. *Bruce v. Samuels*, 577 U.S. 82 (2016).

II. ARGUMENT

A. Deposits over six months are not the legal test; ability to pay after necessities is the test

Courts sometimes focus on the raw deposit total. That approach is legally incomplete. The governing question is whether Lynch can pay filing fees without depriving himself of basic necessities. *Adkins*, 335 U.S. at 339 40.

Here, Lynch's account statement shows approximately \$3,500 in deposits over six months, but also shows approximately \$3,495 in expenditures over the same period demonstrating that the deposits are consumed by essential living needs in prison. In other words, the statement reflects gross inflow, not net ability.

B. Lynch's weekly funds are necessary for basic survival needs in custody

Lynch's typical resources (approximately \$100-\$125 per week) are used for essentials that incarcerated people must often purchase themselves:

1. Medically safer and nutritionally adequate food supplementation

Lynch's medical condition (low CD4/immune compromise) makes food safety and adequate nutrition materially more important than for an average person. When institutional meals are unsafe for his condition or fail to meet daily nutritional needs, purchasing supplemental calories and protein is not discretionary; it is an essential health measure. The court's IFP analysis properly considers whether funds are needed for "necessities," and medically required nutrition and safer food options qualify as necessities under *Adkins*'s framework (necessities are not limited to rent and utilities; they include basic life and health needs).

2. Hygiene and sanitation items

Soap, toothpaste, deodorant, and similar items are basic necessities. In a congregate setting where infection risk is higher, hygiene becomes even more essential. These are not "luxury commissary" expenses; they are foundational to daily life and health.

3. The prison economy does not eliminate the need for money; it shifts necessities into commissary

The PLRA contemplates that prisoners will have small periodic deposits and still qualify for IFP because the law measures means, not a momentary inflow. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a), (b)(4). Many incarcerated people have funds pass through their account that are immediately spent on basic living items. That reality is exactly why courts look to the overall picture: income, balances, and whether the litigant is forced to choose between filing and necessities.

C. Denying IFP here would effectively force Lynch to choose between medical survival and court access

If Lynch must pay fees up front or is denied IFP because deposits look high, he is forced into the very dilemma Adkins forbids: pay the court or purchase necessities. Adkins, 335 U.S. at 339 40. That choice is even more coercive here because the "necessities" at issue are tied to Lynch's immune-compromised status: safe food supplementation and hygiene for disease prevention.

D. Even if the Court calculates an initial partial fee, the PLRA forbids blocking the case if Lynch lacks the means

If the Court concludes an initial partial payment is required under § 1915(b)(1), the Court must still allow the case to proceed if Lynch has "no assets and no means" to pay that initial amount at the time it is due. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4). The correct approach is:

1. Grant IFP;
2. Assess any initial partial fee per the statute if funds exist;
3. If insufficient funds exist, permit filing and collect payments later as funds become available, consistent with § 1915(b)(2) and the \$10 threshold.

III. REQUESTED RELIEF

For the foregoing reasons, Lynch respectfully requests the Court:

1. Grant Lynch's Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a);
2. Assess and collect any filing fee amounts only as authorized by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b);
3. If Lynch's account lacks sufficient funds for the initial partial fee, apply § 1915(b)(4) and allow the action to proceed without prepayment; and
4. Grant any other relief the Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,
Jason Matthew Lynch, Pro Se
Reg. No. 07405-510

Key Federal Authorities to Cite (and how they apply to Lynch)

1. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a) Authorizes IFP when affidavit shows inability to pay.
Applies: Lynch's affidavit + account statement show he cannot pay without sacrificing necessities.

2. Adkins v. E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co., 335 U.S. 331, 339 40 (1948) Not required to be destitute; test is inability to pay and provide necessities of life.

Applies: Lynch's weekly funds are consumed by necessities (food supplementation for health + hygiene).

3. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1) (2) PLRA payment structure (initial partial + monthly 20% payments when account exceeds \$10).

Applies: Even if deposits exist, payments must follow the statute; no "up-front denial" based on appearances.

4. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4) Court cannot prohibit suit because prisoner lacks assets/means to pay initial partial fee.

Applies: If Lynch's balance is near zero after necessities, the case must proceed.

5. Bruce v. Samuels, 577 U.S. 82 (2016) Explains PLRA fee collection mechanics and confirms statutory scheme.

Applies: Reinforces that collection is governed by § 1915, not a discretionary "you had deposits so you're not indigent" shortcut.

Optional "Stronger Facts" Paragraph

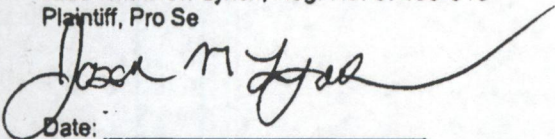
> "While the account statement reflects deposits, it also reflects that those funds are rapidly consumed by basic survival needs in custody. Lynch is immune-compromised (low CD4). When institutional meals are unsafe for his medical status and do not meet daily nutritional needs, he must supplement food through commissary to avoid deterioration in health. He must also purchase hygiene and sanitation necessities. The statement shows these costs essentially equal the deposits, leaving no meaningful disposable funds to pay filing fees without sacrificing necessities."

TRULINCS 07405510 - LYNCH, JASON M - Unit: ERE-D-A

- A. Grant this Motion to Proceed In Forma Pauperis;
- B. Assess the initial partial filing fee as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b); and
- C. Allow this action to proceed without prepayment of the full filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Matthew Lynch, Reg. No. 07405-510
Plaintiff, Pro Se


Date: _____

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS

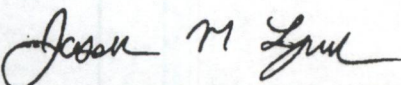
(28 U.S.C. § 1915)

I, Jason Matthew Lynch, Reg. No. 07405-510, being first duly sworn, state under penalty of perjury:

1. I am the Plaintiff in this action.
2. I am currently incarcerated at the White County Jail in Searcy, Arkansas.
3. I am unable to pay the filing fee for this action.
4. I have no significant income, property, or assets.
5. I do not own any real estate, stocks, bonds, vehicles, or other valuable property.
6. My only funds, if any, come from minimal deposits into my inmate trust account.
7. I depend entirely on limited jail resources for food, shelter, and basic necessities.
8. This lawsuit is filed in good faith and not for any improper purpose.

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

Executed on this 20 day of January, 2026.


Jason Matthew Lynch, Reg. No. 07405-510

TRULINCS 07405510 - LYNCH, JASON M - Unit: ERE-D-A

Plaintiff, Pro Se

PRISON TRUST ACCOUNT CERTIFICATION

(28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2))

Inmate Name: Jason Matthew Lynch
Register No.: 07405-510

I certify that the attached statement is a true and correct copy of the inmate trust fund account for the above-named inmate for the six (6) month period immediately preceding the filing of this complaint, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(2).

The account reflects all deposits, withdrawals, and balances during that period.

Certified by:

Authorized Jail Official / Trust Fund Officer
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____
(Attach certified account statement here)

Attached

OPTIONAL ADD-ON (If the Clerk Requires It)

CONSENT TO COLLECTION OF FILING FEE FROM INMATE TRUST ACCOUNT

I, Jason Matthew Lynch, Reg. No. 07405-510, consent to the collection of the filing fee in installments from my inmate trust account as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b).

Jason Matthew Lynch
Date: _____



notary 1-20-2026



Inmate Inquiry

Inmate Reg #: 07405510
Inmate Name: LYNCH, JASON
Report Date: 01/20/2026
Report Time: 2:44:45 PM
Current Institution: El Reno FCI
Housing Unit: ERE-D-A
Living Quarters: D03-207U

General Information | Account Balances | Commissary History | Commissary Restrictions | Comments
General Information

Administrative Hold Indicator: No
No Power of Attorney: No
Never Waive NSF Fee: No
Max Allowed Deduction %: 100
PIN: 6122
PAC #: 567398401
Revalidation Date: 16th
FRP Participation Status: Participating
Arrived From: OKL
Transferred To:
Account Creation Date: 9/20/2024
Local Account Activation Date: 10/23/2024 3:13:12 AM
Sort Codes: 
Last Account Update: 1/19/2026 11:06:10 AM
Account Status: Active
Phone Balance: \$4.32

Pre-Release Plan Information

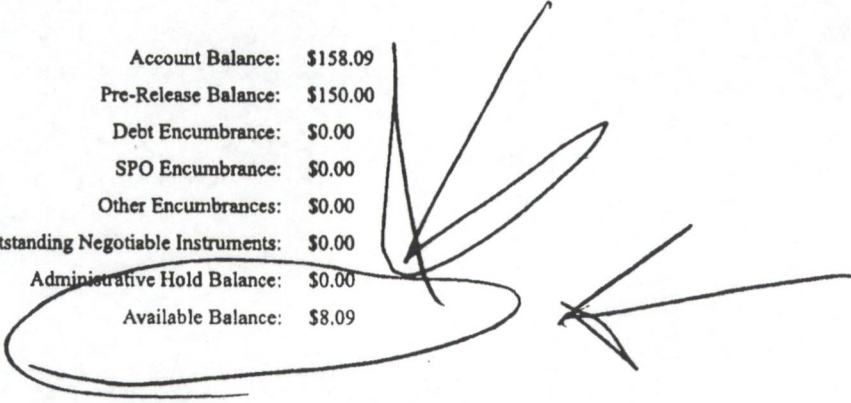
Target Pre-Release Account Balance: \$500.00
Pre-Release Deduction %: 10%
Income Categories to Deduct From: ☒ Payroll ☐ Outside Source Funds

FRP Plan Information

FRP Plan Type	Expected Amount	Expected Rate
Unitor %	\$0.00	50%

Account Balances

Account Balance: \$158.09
Pre-Release Balance: \$150.00
Debt Encumbrance: \$0.00
SPO Encumbrance: \$0.00
Other Encumbrances: \$0.00
Outstanding Negotiable Instruments: \$0.00
Administrative Hold Balance: \$0.00
Available Balance: \$8.09



Inmate Inquiry



Inmate Reg #: 07405510
Inmate Name: LYNCH, JASON
Report Date: 02/11/2026
Report Time: 3:20:50 PM
Current Institution: El Reno FCI
Housing Unit: ERE-D-A
Living Quarters: D03-207U

General Information | Account Balances | Commissary History | Commissary Restrictions | Comments
General Information

Administrative Hold Indicator: No
No Power of Attorney: No
Never Waive NSF Fee: No
Max Allowed Deduction %: 100
PIN: 6122
PAC #: 567398401
Revalidation Date: 16th
FRP Participation Status: Participating
Arrived From: OKL
Transferred To:
Account Creation Date: 9/20/2024
Local Account Activation Date: 10/23/2024 3:13:12 AM
Sort Codes:
Last Account Update: 2/10/2026 8:00:54 PM
Account Status: Active
Phone Balance: \$2.74

Pre-Release Plan Information

Target Pre-Release Account Balance: \$500.00
Pre-Release Deduction %: 10%
Income Categories to Deduct From: ☒ Payroll ☐ Outside Source Funds

FRP Plan Information

FRP Plan Type	Expected Amount	Expected Rate
Unitor %	\$0.00	50%

Account Balances

Account Balance: \$15.14
Pre-Release Balance: \$11.99
Debt Encumbrance: \$0.00
SPO Encumbrance: \$0.00
Other Encumbrances: \$0.00
Outstanding Negotiable Instruments: \$0.00
Administrative Hold Balance: \$0.00
Available Balance: \$3.15

National 6 Months Deposits: \$3,513.24
National 6 Months Withdrawals: \$3,508.25
Available Funds to be considered for IFRP Payments: \$2,771.64
National 6 Months Avg Daily Balance: \$55.94
Local Max. Balance - Prev. 30 Days: \$220.83
Average Balance - Prev. 30 Days: \$49.44

Commissary History

Purchases

Validation Period Purchases: \$414.95
YTD Purchases: \$1,863.95
Last Sales Date: 2/10/2026 11:22:50 AM

SPO Information

SPO's this Month: 0
SPO \$ this Quarter: \$0.00

Spending Limit Info

Spending Limit Override: No
Weekly Revalidation: No
Bi-Weekly Revalidation: Yes
Spending Limit: \$230.00
Expended Spending Limit: \$213.80
Remaining Spending Limit: \$16.20

Commissary Restrictions

Spending Limit Restrictions

Restricted Spending Limit: \$0.00
Restricted Expended Amount: \$0.00
Restricted Remaining Spending Limit: \$0.00
Restriction Start Date: N/A
Restriction End Date: N/A

Item Restrictions

List Name	List Type	Start Date	End Date	Active
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Comments

Comments:

DATE: 01/04/2026 10:06:02 PM

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WHITE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

JASON MATTHEW LYNCH
Plaintiff

v.

White County et al.
Defendant(s)

Case No.: _____

MOTION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS (Poor Person)

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Jason Matthew Lynch, and moves this Court for an order permitting him to proceed in forma pauperis (as a poor person) in this action without payment of filing fees and court costs, including service fees, pursuant to Arkansas Rule of Civil Procedure 72 and Arkansas Code § 16-68-604. In support of this Motion, Plaintiff states as follows:

1. Plaintiff is the petitioner in this civil action and seeks to bring claims arising under state and/or federal law.
2. Plaintiff is currently incarcerated as a federal prisoner at FCI El Reno, Oklahoma, and is registered under Reg. No. 07405-510.
3. Plaintiff has no bank accounts (checking, savings, or otherwise), no investment accounts, no stocks or bonds, and no property, vehicles, or any asset of monetary value.
4. Plaintiff has no cryptocurrency or any online accounts of value whatsoever.
5. Plaintiff has less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) in his inmate trust account at this time.
6. Plaintiff earns prison wages of less than one dollar (\$1.00) per hour, such that he has no practical means of paying the filing fee.
7. Plaintiff has no other income or financial support available to him, and he has no family resources that can be used for this purpose.
8. Plaintiff qualifies for poor person status under Arkansas law because he is unable to pay the filing fees and court costs or

security therefor. See Ark. Code § 16-68-604 (affidavit required to establish inability to pay).

9. Arkansas courts are directed to consider federal poverty guidelines and the petitioner's financial inability when determining indigency.

10. Federal courts routinely grant in forma pauperis status to indigent litigants, including prisoners, under 28 U.S.C. § 1915; the Eighth Circuit (which covers Arkansas) has upheld the right of financially unable plaintiffs to proceed without prepayment of fees. See, e.g., *Martin-Trigona v. Stewart*, 691 F.2d 856 (8th Cir. 1982) (discussing §1915 and pauper status). Additional Eighth Circuit authority recognizes prisoner pauper status and the related fee treatment.

11. Under federal law, if a prisoner "has no assets and no means by which to pay the initial partial filing fee," the prisoner cannot be prohibited from bringing a civil action. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(4) (federal standard). Many Arkansas state courts follow similar principles under their in forma pauperis rules.

12. Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court exercise its discretion and grant this Motion so that justice is not denied due to his inability to pay a filing fee.

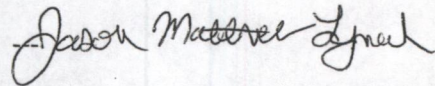
13. If the Court deems payment appropriate, Plaintiff offers to make monthly installment payments of small amounts from his inmate trust account consistent with Arkansas indigency practice.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter an order:

- a. Granting this Motion;
- b. Allowing Plaintiff to proceed in forma pauperis without payment of filing fees or costs and waiving all court costs and service fees, including sheriff or publication costs;
- c. Ordering any future required costs to be borne by the county or court fund as allowed by law;
- d. Granting such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: _____, 2026

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Matthew Lynch, Plaintiff (pro se)

AFFIDAVIT OF INDIGENCY (IN FORMA PAUPERIS)

STATE OF _____
COUNTY OF _____

I, Jason Matthew Lynch, declare under penalty of perjury that the following is true and correct:

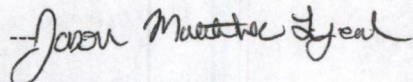
My full name is Jason Matthew Lynch (Reg. No. 07405-510), currently incarcerated at FCI El Reno, Oklahoma.

2. My address is my place of incarceration.

3. I have no bank accounts (checking, savings, or any other financial accounts).
4. I have no stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, or cryptocurrency.
5. I own no real estate, personal property of significant value, vehicles, or any other assets.
6. I have no income or financial support except a prison wage of less than one dollar per hour.
7. I have less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) on deposit in my prison trust account.
8. I have no ability to pay filing fees, court costs, or security for court costs.
9. I respectfully request that the Court permit me to proceed as a poor person (in forma pauperis) and waive all fees and costs associated with filing, service, and prosecution of this action.
10. I understand that if my financial situation changes, the Court may require updated financial disclosures or installment payments.

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

Executed on 1-6-, 2026.



Jason Matthew Lynch

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Notary Public (or Court Clerk)

My Commission Expires: _____

Legal Support

Arkansas in forma pauperis statute and rules: Ark. Code § 16-68-604 authorizes courts to allow incarcerated persons to proceed without fees when financially unable.

Arkansas Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 72: Permits indigent persons to request in forma pauperis status and requires an affidavit of indigency.

Federal pauper standards: Section 1915 of Title 28 U.S.C. establishes ability for indigent persons to proceed without prepayment in federal court, defining criteria and protections (relevant as persuasive authority).