

**INFORMATION TO PRISONERS SEEKING LEAVE TO
PROCEED WITH A CIVIL ACTION IN FEDERAL COURT
IN FORMA PAUPERIS PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1915**

In accordance with 1996 amendments to the in forma pauperis (IFP) statute, **AS A PRISONER YOU WILL BE OBLIGATED TO PAY THE FULL FILING FEE OF \$400.00 FOR A CIVIL RIGHTS ACTION, \$5.00 FOR A HABEAS CORPUS PETITION, OR \$455.00 FOR AN APPEAL.**

If you have the money to pay the filing fee, you should send a cashier's check or money order to the court with your complaint, petition, or notice of appeal.

If you do not have enough money to pay the full filing fee when your action is filed, you can file the action without prepaying the filing fee. The court will order the agency that has custody of you to take the filing fee out of your prison or jail trust account if there are available funds, and to forward the money to the court. Until the amount of the filing fee is paid in full, **EACH MONTH YOU WILL OWE 20 PERCENT OF YOUR PRECEDING MONTH'S INCOME TOWARD THE BALANCE.** The agency that has custody of you will collect that money and send payments to the court any time the amount in the account exceeds \$10.00. The balance of the filing fee will be collected even if the action is later dismissed, summary judgment is granted against you, or you fail to prevail at trial.

In order to proceed with an action in forma pauperis you must complete the attached form and return it to the court with your complaint, habeas corpus petition, or appeal. You must attach to the form a certified copy of your prison or jail account statement for the last six months. If you submit an incomplete form or do not submit a prison or jail account statement with the form, your request to proceed in forma pauperis will be denied.

Regardless of whether some or all of the filing fee has been paid, the court is required to screen your complaint and to dismiss the complaint if

1. Your allegation of poverty is untrue;
2. The action is frivolous or malicious;
3. Your complaint does not state a claim on which relief can be granted, or
4. You sue a defendant for money damages and that defendant is immune from liability for money damages.

If you file more than three actions or appeals while you are a prisoner which are dismissed as frivolous or malicious or for failure to state a claim on which relief can be granted, you will be prohibited from bringing any other actions in forma pauperis unless you are in imminent danger of serious physical injury.

(Revised 01/2008)

