

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

**Kenneth Alico, Ashok Amin, Robert Santa Maria, and Adil Al Yoonus
v. Michael James Marshall, Marshall Energy, Inc., Marshall Energy
Global UK Division, Ltd., and Marshall Energy Global The
Netherlands, B.V.**

Alico · No. 4:26CV3018 · Decided February 18, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Nebraska orders three plaintiffs to correct procedural deficiencies in the complaint by signing it and either paying the filing fees or submitting applications to proceed in forma pauperis. The order warns that failure to comply by March 20, 2026, will result in their dismissal as parties without prejudice and without further notice.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Nebraska
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Joseph F. Bataillon
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Nebraska
DECIDED	February 18, 2026
DOCKET	4:26CV3018
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The district court, on its own motion, reviewed the newly filed complaint and identified signature and filing-fee or in forma pauperis deficiencies as to three plaintiffs.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential district court memorandum and order
PARTIES	Kenneth Alico, Ashok Amin, Robert Santa Maria, Adil Al Yoonus v. Michael James Marshall, Marshall Energy, Inc., Marshall Energy Global UK Division, Ltd., Marshall Energy Global The Netherlands, B.V.

TOPICS

pleadings

civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

federal courts

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether plaintiffs who are unrepresented must personally sign the complaint under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11(a).
2. Whether each plaintiff seeking to proceed in forma pauperis must submit an individual application and affidavit under the District of Nebraska's local rule.
3. Whether a non-attorney pro se plaintiff may sign pleadings or represent other plaintiffs.

HOLDINGS

1. Each unrepresented plaintiff must personally sign the complaint or other pleading; a complaint signed by only one of several named pro se plaintiffs is deficient as to the others.
2. When more than one person brings a civil action for which leave to proceed in forma pauperis is requested, each plaintiff must file an application and affidavit or pay the required filing and administrative fees.
3. A non-attorney pro se litigant may represent only himself or herself and may not sign papers or otherwise represent other parties.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“To the extent Alico may be attempting to represent, or sign on behalf of, Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus, he cannot do so.”

“FAILURE TO CORRECT THE DEFECTS WITHIN 30 DAYS WILL RESULT IN DISMISSAL OF PLAINTIFFS AMIN, SANTA MARIA, AND YOONUS AS PARTIES TO THIS CASE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The complaint named Kenneth Alico, Ashok Amin, Robert Santa Maria, and Adil Al Yoonus as plaintiffs, but only Alico signed it. Alico filed and obtained approval of an in forma pauperis application, whereas Amin, Santa Maria, and Al Yoonus did not sign the complaint or submit individual applications to proceed without prepayment of fees. The court also found that Alico, a non-attorney pro se litigant, could not sign or represent the other plaintiffs.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiffs filed a complaint on January 23, 2026, but only Kenneth Alico signed it. Alico obtained leave to proceed in forma pauperis, while Amin, Santa Maria, and Al Yoonus neither signed the complaint nor filed individual in forma pauperis applications. The court ordered those three plaintiffs to cure the defects by filing a signed complaint and either paying the filing and administrative fees or submitting individual in forma pauperis requests.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- C.H. by & through Hunt v. Pattonville Sch. Dist., No. 4:21-CV-00443-JCH, 2021 WL 4061106, at *2 (E.D. Mo. Sept. 7, 2021)
- United States v. Brenton, No. 8:04CR262, 2007 WL 3124539, at *1 (D. Neb. Oct. 23, 2007)

OPINION

Alico

PER CURIAM.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

KENNETH ALICO, ASHOK AMIN, ROBERT

SANTA MARIA, and ADIL AL YOONUS,

4:26CV3018 Plaintiffs,

vs. MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

MICHAEL JAMES MARSHALL, MARSHALL

ENERGY, Inc.; MARSHALL ENERGY

GLOBAL UK DIVISION, LTD., and

MARSHALL ENERGY GLOBAL THE

NETHERLANDS, B.V.,

Defendants. This matter is before the Court on its own motion. Plaintiffs Kenneth Alico (“Alico”), Ashok Amin (“Amin”), Robert Santa Maria (“Santa Maria”), and Adil Al Yoonus (“Yoonus”) filed a Complaint, Filing No. 1, on January 23, 2026, which only Alico signed. Plaintiff Alico also filed a Motion for Leave to Proceed in Forma Pauperis (“IFP”), Filing No. 2, which the Court granted, Filing No. 7. However, Plaintiffs Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus did not sign the Complaint nor did they file motions seeking leave to proceed IFP. Plaintiffs Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus cannot proceed as plaintiffs in this case if they do not each sign the Complaint nor can they proceed without payment of the filing fees unless Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus each submit a separate motion for leave to proceed IFP. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 11(a) (“Every pleading, written motion, and other paper must be signed . . . by a party personally if the party is unrepresented.”); NECivR 3.3(c) (“If more than one person brings a civil action for which leave to proceed in forma pauperis is requested, each plaintiff must file an application[and] affidavit”). To the extent Alico may be attempting to represent, or sign on behalf of, Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus, he cannot do so. C.H. by & through Hunt v. Pattonville Sch. Dist., No. 4:21-CV-00443-JCH, 2021 WL 4061106, at *2 (E.D. Mo. Sept. 7, 2021) (“A non-attorney pro se litigant may represent him or

herself in federal court, but cannot represent another person.”); *United States v. Brenton*, No. 8:04CR262, 2007 WL 3124539, at *1 (D. Neb. Oct. 23, 2007) (citing 5A C. Wright & A. Miller, *Federal Practice and Procedure* § 1333, at 513 & n.15 (2004)) (it is improper for a non-lawyer to sign papers in place of, or to otherwise represent, parties other than themselves). Accordingly, the Court shall order Plaintiffs Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus to file a signed Complaint in accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11 and the Court’s Local Rules and either submit the \$405.00 filing and administrative fees or a request to proceed in forma pauperis. This matter cannot proceed until the foregoing deficiencies are corrected. FAILURE TO CORRECT THE DEFECTS WITHIN 30 DAYS WILL

RESULT IN DISMISSAL OF PLAINTIFFS AMIN, SANTA MARIA, AND YOONUS AS PARTIES TO THIS CASE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Plaintiffs Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus are directed to correct the above-listed technical defects on or before March 20, 2026. To be clear, Plaintiffs Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus must (1) file a signed copy of the Complaint and (2) either pay the \$405.00 filing and administrative fees or submit a request to proceed in forma pauperis to the Clerk’s office. Failure to comply with this Memorandum and Order will result in Plaintiffs Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus being dismissed as parties to this case without prejudice and without further notice.
2. The Clerk of the Court is directed to send to Plaintiffs Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus the Form AQ240 (“Application to Proceed Without Prepayment of Fees and Affidavit”) and a copy of the Complaint’s signature pages, Filing No. 1 at 6—7.
3. The Clerk of the Court is directed to set a prose case management deadline in this matter with the following text: March 20, 2026: deadline for Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus to submit signed Complaint and MIFP or payment.
4. Plaintiffs Alico, Amin, Santa Maria, and Yoonus are all required to sign any joint motion, pleading, or other paper filed with the Court. Plaintiffs are WARNED that future group motions or pleadings that are not signed by all Plaintiffs shall be stricken pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11(a). Dated this 18th day of February, 2026. BY THE COURT: Joseph F. Bataillon Senior United States District Judge