

Hulm, Petra

From: L Mousseau <laurel.mousseau@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2016 6:32 AM
To: (SUP) Clerk of Court Office
Subject: out-of-state attorneys must be allowed to appear in ND

Defendants who have been charged related to efforts to protect Standing Rock and object to drilling for oil on sacred land need to be given the right to bring attorneys from out of State. ND Public defenders are in short supply, and the handful of attorneys in private practice supportive of this cause are maxed capacity.

Resources are available -- a number of out-of-state Native attorneys (and allied attorneys) willing to help, but need to be allowed to appear without the need for local counsel, as provided for in the current pro hac vice procedures.

As a California attorney, I hope that North Dakota will allow out-of-state attorneys to appear through short-term registration in the ND federal courts as proposed. ALL criminal defendants must be given speedy trials and an opportunity to be represented by adequate counsel. The currently available ND public defenders (and available local counsel) simply cannot meet the need.

Thank you for considering a short-term solution to this serious problem.

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