

From: (SUP) Clerk of Court Office
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2016 1:58 PM
To: Miller, Penny
Subject: FW: Petition re: out of state lawyers

FILED
IN THE OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
DECEMBER 16, 2016
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Heather Keller

Deputy Clerk | North Dakota Supreme Court

From: Melinda Power [<mailto:melindapower@comcast.net>]
Sent: Friday, December 16, 2016 1:57 PM
To: (SUP) Clerk of Court Office
Subject: Petition re: out of state lawyers

Dear Ms. Miller,

I am writing you to urge the North Dakota Supreme Court to grant the Temporary Petition to Allow out of state Lawyers to represent the No Dakota Access Pipeline (NODAPL) arrestees and to permit out of state attorneys to be admitted without the regular requirements.

I am one such out of state attorney who wishes to be able to practice law in the state of North Dakota for the limited purpose of representing NODAPL arrestees. I was in North Dakota, and at Standing Rock, from November 14-November 19, 2016. I was able to attend one court hearing on November 17, 2016. I would like to represent some of the arrestees from the multitude of arrests that have occurred as part of the protests against the proposed pipeline.

I am an attorney who has been licensed in Illinois and California for over 35 years. My principal focus is criminal defense and I handle civil rights cases as well. I have been involved in hundreds of criminal trials, on both the state and, to a lesser degree, the federal level.

I have read and agree with the Petition. I urge this Court to waive its standard procedure regarding the admission of out of state lawyers due to the urgent need for additional attorneys to assist in the representation of the over 500 protestors, many of whom still do not have an attorney. We all want to ensure that the arrestees' constitutional right to an attorney is not violated. I suggest that the most efficient way to ensure adherence to the constitutional rights of the arrestees is to allow out of state attorneys to represent the arrestees.

Thank you very much for considering this Petition.

Sincerely,

Melinda Power

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