

DECEMBER 20, 2016

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Supreme Court Clerk's Office - Harrison, Beth

From: Gretta Cox-Gorton <grettacoxgorton@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 20, 2016 11:17 AM
To: (SUP) Clerk of Court Office
Subject: Comments on the Allowance of Out-of-State Attorney's to Represent Water Protectors

Dear Ms. Miller,

I have recently been made aware that the North Dakota Supreme Court has decided to take public comments on whether or not to allow out-of-state lawyers to represent Water Protectors for their trials.

Such representation must be allowed. As I understand it, there is an extreme need for public defenders within the state out right, and that the small amount of private attorneys who are supportive of the Water Protectors and their cause are at max capacity.

Public defenders from outside North Dakota are able and willing to step in and assist, and by allowing out of state representation, justice can be better served to citizens, which should be the goal of any court system.

Most sincerely,
Gretta Cox-Gorton