

**Supreme Court Clerk's Office - Keller, Heather**

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**From:** Maeve Goodbody <maeve.goodbody@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 20, 2016 4:36 PM  
**To:** (SUP) Clerk of Court Office  
**Subject:** Comment re: Temporary ND licensing for out of state attorneys

Dear Ms. Miller,

I am writing on regarding the current question for the ND Supreme Court on whether or not to allow out of state attorneys to provide temporary legal services in your state.

In brief, I strongly support allowing this to happen. I am a public defender in Colorado, and recently looked into the process for obtaining a law license in North Dakota, in order to provide legal services for criminal defendants there, who are facing criminal charges in relation to the DAPL protest. I am eligible for an admission on motion to your state's bar, but I would still need to pay costly admission fees, and compile extensive documents for admission.

Allowing out of state lawyers to provide much needed legal services in your state ensures that people currently facing criminal charges, who are in need of representation, are not forced to sacrifice any of their constitutional rights (whether that be forfeiting their right to a speedy trial due to unavailability of counsel, or being denied effective assistance of counsel because the overburdened ND public defenders can't give adequate time to their cases).

I sincerely hope that North Dakota allows representation by attorneys with out of state law licenses, whether it is in the form of *pro hac vice* admissions, or by some other mechanism. The situation there is unique, and calls for unique solutions. I request that the North Dakota Supreme Court accept and approve the Petition to Permit Temporary Provision of Legal Services by Qualified Attorneys From Outside North Dakota. **Thank you for your consideration.**

Best,

Maeve Goodbody  
Grand Junction, CO