

DECEMBER 19, 2016

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Hulm, Petra

From: Benjamin Doscher <bdoscheresq@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 2:39 AM
To: (SUP) Clerk of Court Office
Subject: Please do not deny the right to counsel

p.p1 {margin: 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px }

p.p2 {margin: 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px; min-height: 14.0px }

span.s1 {font-family: 'Helvetica'; font-weight: normal; font-style: normal; font-size: 12.00pt }

Clerk of the Court:

Admission to the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota is straightforward and historically very efficient; its application takes less than an hour to complete, and mere days to get approved. This Court could either temporarily adopt the process used by the federal court, or could temporarily admit U.S. District Court bar members for these limited circumstances. Strict scrutiny, the Constitutional standard that must be met to justify denying counsel to indigent defendants fails when this approach is available, rational and safe. In fact, to deny this argument would be grounds for suit under 42 U.S. Code § 1983, and expose all Justices of this Court to Constitutional violation claims, in their personal and official capacity, as Justices of the North Dakota Supreme Court.