

Hulm, Petra

From: Karen Kaufman <KKaufman@nycap.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 1:25 PM
To: (SUP) Clerk of Court Office
Subject: Comment in support of Petition No. 20160436

I strongly support the proposed court rule amendments that would enable out-of-state attorneys to represent defendants charged in connection with protests at the site of the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline. This seems like an excellent alternative to reliance on the overburdened public defender system. There does not seem to be any compelling interest on the part of the State of North Dakota to insist on the normal requirements on out-of-state attorneys in this situation. Facilitating representation by capable out-of-state attorneys would protect defendants' constitutional right to adequate legal representation, which would itself reduce appeals of adverse verdicts, while relieving the State of the cost and added burden of public defender representation.

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