

**Hulm, Petra**

**From:** rmflynnlaw@gmail.com on behalf of R Michael Flynn <michael@flo-law.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 18, 2016 3:52 PM  
**To:** (SUP) Clerk of Court Office  
**Subject:** Rule amendments to allow out of state lawyers to represent people

Dear Clerk of the Supreme Court,

I write out of concern that hundreds of people being charged with crimes in North Dakota will not have access to counsel because of the shortage of North Dakota licensed attorneys ready and willing to handle these criminal defense cases, and the apparent overcharging of people with crimes for peaceful civil disobedience.

Democratic processes assured that the founders of this country would make the Bill of Rights part of the US Constitution. The 5th Amendment guarantees Due Process of law before anyone is judged for an alleged crime. The 6th Amendment guarantees effective assistance of counsel. The US Supreme Court has again and again re-asserted these rights. This means that a state that chooses to charge people with crimes, must guarantee that everyone has access to counsel, regardless of access to money.

I understand from North Dakota news reports that part of the problem may likely be the low pay that court appointed counsel are promised for criminal cases, and the increase in business for ND attorneys from oil and gas industry work.

Allowing out of state attorneys to become licenses to represent people in criminal trials is one of the simplest, most economic way to address this problem.

Please do what is right, and uphold the Bill of Rights, the US Constitution, and the human rights principles these founding documents assert.

Regards,  
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