

4/1/2025  
12:08 pm

Clerk, US District Court  
By: LHC

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**PRO BONO REPRESENTATION                    )     AMENDED STANDING  
IN PRO SE CIVIL CASES                        )     ORDER NO. 6**

The U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina facilitates pro bono representation to pro se parties, generally in exceptional civil cases where summary judgment has been denied and the case is set for trial. For any eligible case, the presiding Judge may decide whether appointment of a pro bono attorney is appropriate. The presiding judge has absolute discretion in making a determination of whether exceptional circumstances exist and whether appointment of a pro bono attorney is appropriate.

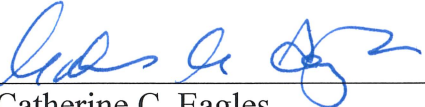
Attorneys interested in participating in the program shall complete the Pro Bono Representation Request Form from the Court's website and submit it to the Clerk of Court. The Clerk shall ensure that the interested attorney has been a counsel of record in more than one civil action in the court and then place the attorney on a pro bono representation list. The Clerk of Court shall maintain the attorney representation list.


When pro bono appointment is requested by the presiding Judge, the Clerk shall send a Notice of Appointment of Counsel via email regarding a particular civil case. The attorney may decline the notice of appointment for any reason. If the attorney declines to accept the appointment, the attorney will remain on the panel list for a future appointment in another civil case. Subsequent appointments shall be made sequentially from the list. Responses to the Notice of Appointment of Counsel shall be made within two business days. The Clerk may grant up to one written request for extension of time to decide whether to decline an appointment, totaling not more than 10 days.

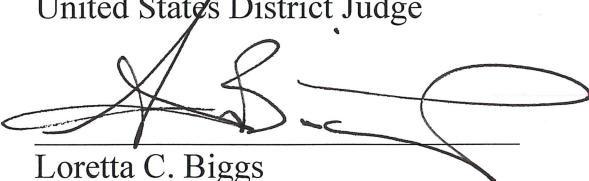
The order or other notice of appointment shall advise the pro se litigant of the name, address, and telephone number of appointed counsel. The pro se litigant is advised pursuant to the terms of this Standing Order that the litigant has no right to advancement of costs and expenses by counsel and that appointment of counsel for a pro se litigant is solely for the purpose of providing legal advice, counsel, and representation on behalf of the pro se party.

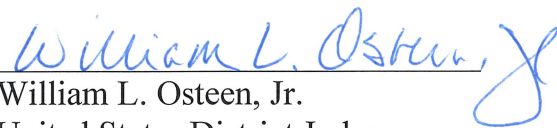
Appointed counsel is not required to advance any costs or expenses on behalf of a pro se litigant. However, appointed counsel may seek reimbursement for eligible expenses under the Court's Bench and Bar Fund Plan, § III(A)(6); whether to grant reimbursement is discretionary with the Court. If granted, reimbursement is after-the-fact; prepayment from the Bench and Bar Fund is not permitted. A copy of the plan is available on the Court's website.

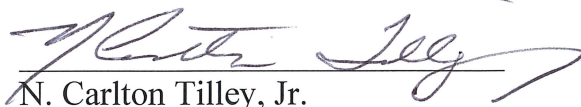
This Order takes effect immediately. This the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

  
Catherine C. Eagles  
Chief United States District Judge

  
Thomas D. Schroeder  
United States District Judge

  
Loretta C. Biggs  
Senior United States District Judge

  
William L. Osteen, Jr.  
United States District Judge

  
N. Carlton Tilley, Jr.  
Senior United States District Judge