

**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 successfully completed a pilot program to provide 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. Such program is now ready to become fully operational. Consequently, for any eligible case, the presiding Judge may make a determination of whether appointment of a pro bono attorney is appropriate. The presiding judge will have absolute discretion in making a determination of whether exceptional circumstances exist and whether appointment of a pro bono attorney is appropriate.

The clerk of court shall maintain an attorney representation list, and send a Notice of Appointment of Counsel via email regarding a particular civil case when pro bono appointment is requested by the presiding Judge. 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.

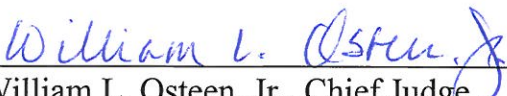
Attorneys interested in participating in the program shall complete the attached Pro Bono Representation Request Form and submit the form to the clerk of court. The clerk of court shall ensure that the interested attorney has been a counsel of record in more than one civil action in the court and then place the attorney on a pro bono representation list.

In the event of appointment of an attorney to a civil case under the circumstances described herein, the order or other notice of appointment shall advise the pro se litigant of the name, address, and telephone number of appointed counsel. Further, 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.

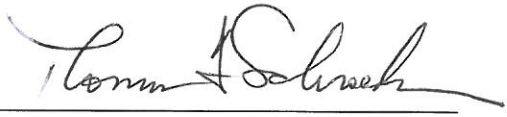
District Court funds shall not be available to reimburse out-of-pocket costs of attorneys who participate in this pro bono program.

This order is effective immediately.

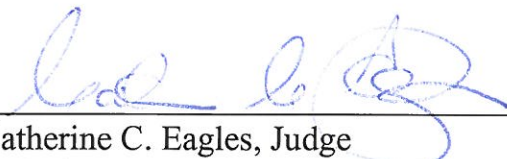
This the 23 day of November, 2016.



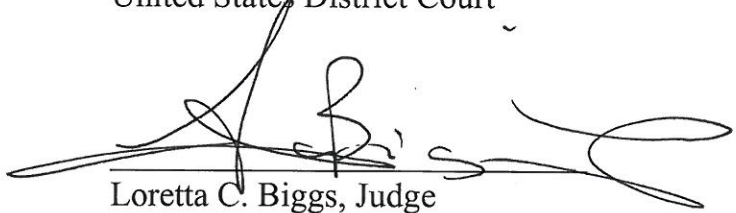
William L. Osteen, Jr., Chief Judge
United States District Court



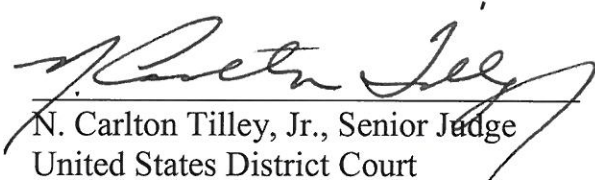
Thomas D. Schroeder, Judge
United States District Court



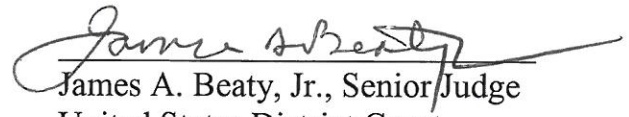
Catherine C. Eagles, Judge
United States District Court



Loretta C. Biggs, Judge
United States District Court



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



James A. Beaty, Jr., Senior Judge
United States District Court