



To: Prospective Members of the Eastern District of Washington Pro Bono Panel

On behalf of the Federal Bar Association of the Eastern District of Washington, I want to ask you to consider becoming a member of the Eastern District of Washington Pro Bono Panel. The Pro Bono Panel provides legal representation for qualifying indigent civil clients who would otherwise proceed without legal representation.

General Order 16-411-1 established the Pro Bono Panel of Attorneys. Pursuant to that order, attorneys and law firms willing to serve as pro bono counsel for indigent civil plaintiffs may file an application with the Federal Bar Association–Eastern District of Washington. The Bar Association will review the individual and law firm applications and compile and maintain a list of attorneys and law firms participating on the Pro Bono Panel. Panel members may designate the types of cases they are willing to perform (e.g., civil rights, fair housing, employment discrimination, veterans benefits, social security benefits, Americans with Disabilities Act, etc.).

Upon request of an indigent *pro se* litigant, accompanied by a declaration of indigency, the Court will determine whether appointed counsel is warranted. If the Court finds appointed counsel is warranted, the Court will request the Bar Association select counsel from the Panel and communicate at least two names to the Court. The Court will provisionally select counsel of its choice who shall then be notified and will conduct a conflicts determination and an initial review of the plaintiff's complaint in order to determine whether counsel may accept the appointment. If counsel has no conflict and is otherwise qualified to handle the matter, the Court may then make the appointment. If counsel cannot accept the appointment for any reason, the Bar Association shall repeat this procedure until qualified counsel is located. Additional details regarding the Pro Bono Panel can be found in General Order 16-411-1, which is posted on the Court website.

Attorneys interested in serving on the Pro Bono Panel can submit a letter of interest, or address any questions, to the President of the Federal Bar Association:

Matt Campbell  
Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington & Idaho  
10 North Post Street, Suite 700  
Spokane, WA 99201  
[Matt\\_Campbell@fd.org](mailto:Matt_Campbell@fd.org)

We hope you take advantage of this opportunity to not only provide valuable service to members of the community who cannot afford counsel, but also gain valuable experience in federal court. Remember that Rule 6.1 of the Washington Rules of Professional conduct provide that "Every lawyer has a professional responsibility to assist in the provision of legal services to those unable to pay. A lawyer should aspire to render at least thirty (30) hours of pro bono publico service per year." Pro bono publico service is reported annually on a form provided by the WSBA. A lawyer rendering a minimum of fifty (50) hours of pro bono publico service receives a commendation for such service from the WSBA.

Best regards to you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Campbell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matthew Campbell, President  
Eastern District of Washington Federal Bar Association