

## WAIVER OF ATTORNEY

You have indicated to the court that you want to proceed in your case(s) without the help of a lawyer, either hired by you or provided by the court at no immediate expense to you.

The crime or crimes charged against you may be likely to carry a jail sentence upon plea or conviction or are required by law to have some sort of jail sentence imposed. Also, thefts, OWI (drunk driving), Driving Under Suspension or Revocation, Domestic Assaults, Public Intoxication and Underage Possession of Tobacco and Alcohol and Possession of Controlled Substances may be charged as more serious offenses if repeat convictions occur within further time limits.

A lawyer may be able to help you: (1) understand the law; (2) evaluate evidence; (3) gather and present evidence; (4) challenge evidence and testimony to be used against you; (5) select juries; (6) present arguments to the court or a jury; (7) measure the risks your charge(s) present; (8) plea bargain for you with the prosecutor; (9) present alternative sentencing choices to the court.

If you feel confident that you want to represent yourself, understanding the above, you do have the right to do so, but you are taking the chance that you will not have the education, knowledge, and experience to do for yourself the matters described above.

You should understand that the prosecutor will be a lawyer and you will be expected follow court rules and procedure. The judge will not be permitted to help you; the court must be neutral.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, charged with the crime(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ state that I have been warned of the risks of representing myself without a lawyer. I have been told by the court the minimum and maximum penalties associated with the charges against me and possible future risks from later similar convictions. I have decided not to hire a lawyer or have one appointed to me, or the court has decided I am not qualified to have appointed counsel.

I have decided to proceed in this (these) matter(s) without a lawyer at all parts of the proceedings.

No one has forced me to give up the help of a lawyer in my case(s). I have made my own informed choice to do this.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Defendant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- The court offered court appointed counsel.
- The Court determined this defendant does not qualify for court appointed counsel.
- The court offered standby counsel.
- The court did not offer standby counsel.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge