

**PLAN OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF *PRO SE* LITIGANTS  
IN CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIONS  
(AS AMENDED, EFFECTIVE JUNE 30, 2006)**

The United States District Court for the Western District of Washington adopts the following amended plan for furnishing representation to *pro se* litigants in civil rights actions where the Court exercises its discretion to provide such representation. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 2000e, *et seq.* and 28 U.S.C. § 1915. This Plan shall govern the appointment of attorneys from the Western District Pro Bono Panel (“Panel”) to represent *pro se* litigants in civil rights actions. For each civil action duly commenced in the Western District by such a litigant, the Judge to whom the action is assigned may issue an order of appointment and other orders relating to representation by the appointed attorney in accordance with this Plan and the accompanying Rules. For all purposes, the term Judge shall include Magistrate Judge. The Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington shall work in conjunction with the Court and the Clerk of the Court, who may act through a designated Pro Bono Coordinator, to administer this Plan.

**Section 1. Pro Bono Panel**

**(a) Individual Application.** Attorneys who are willing to accept appointment to represent *pro se* litigants in civil rights actions shall apply for designation to the Pro Bono Panel on appropriate forms, which are available on the website of the Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington ([www.fba-wdwash.org](http://www.fba-wdwash.org)) and from the Clerk of the Court. Each application shall set forth, among other things: (i) the attorney’s prior civil trial experience, including the number and type of trials and areas of trial experience; (ii) the attorney’s ability to consult and advise in languages other than English; (iii) the attorney’s preferred practice area(s), if any, for appointment, and (iv) a statement describing any other experiences that qualify the attorney for appointment to the Pro Bono Panel.

**(b) Law Firm Application.** A law firm may apply as a firm for designation to the Panel by completing the appropriate form available on-line and from the Clerk of the Court. In its application, the law firm shall set forth, among other things: (i) the number of appointed cases per calendar year the firm is willing to accept; (ii) the ability of participating firm attorneys to consult and advise in languages other than English; (iii) the firm’s preferred practice area(s), if any, for appointment, and (iv) the name of the firm’s managing partner or a senior member of the firm designated as the Panel Liaison. Where an action is assigned to a participating firm, the order of appointment may be directed to the firm and the assignment of a firm attorney to the action may be made by the managing partner or the Panel Liaison.

**(c) Amending/Withdrawing Information.** Information on an application may be amended in writing at any time by letter to the Clerk of the Court. An attorney or firm may withdraw from the Panel at any time by written notice to the Clerk of the Court, except during

