UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MONTANA

ATTORNEY ADMISSION PROCESS

Applicable Local Rule: Local Rule 83.1 sets forth the rules and requirements for admission to practice before the bar of the United States District Court for the District of Montana.

Requirements for General Admission: Pursuant to Local Rule 83.1, to be admitted to the United States District Court for the District of Montana you must do the following:

1. Be an active member in good standing of the Montana State Bar;
2. Complete, sign, and present ORIGINALS of the following to the clerk of court:
    a. Petition for Attorney Admission which must also be signed by an attorney in good standing with the United States District Court for the District of Montana;
    b. Oath Card--the information provided on the oath card will be the information used to create your attorney profile in the CM/ECF database.
3. Submit Admission Fee of $255.00 (as of December 1, 2016)
    a. Pay over the phone or in person with a credit card
    b. Pay in person or by mail with a check made payable to Clerk, U.S. District Court

Once completed, sign and mail the **ORIGINALS** to:

Clerk of Court
United States District Court District of Montana
Attention: Attorney Admissions
P.O. Box 8537
Missoula, MT 59807

**In the District of Montana, you do not need to be sworn in, in person, to be admitted to practice.

**Please contact Sarah Nagy at (406) 829-7154 or by email at Sarah_Nagy@mtd.uscourts.gov with any questions regarding this process.

**After admission you must complete and submit the CM/ECF User Registration Form.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MONTANA

CIVIL PRO BONO PANEL

Pursuant to Standing Order DLC-47, the United States District Court for the District of Montana maintains a Civil Pro Bono Panel of volunteer attorneys. The Civil Pro Bono Panel is the court's resource for identifying those members of the bar of this Court who are willing to make a pro bono contribution to the District of Montana.

The purpose of this panel is to identify attorneys willing to represent pro se litigants in the prosecution and/or defense of civil actions before the Court. Attorneys are appointed pursuant to Standing Order DLC-47, which also details the expense reimbursement procedures for appointed attorneys.

The Court frequently has a need for attorneys to contribute their time by representing pro se plaintiffs in lawsuits challenging conditions of confinement or alleging unconstitutional treatment under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The Court typically would only assign cases where a pro se plaintiff has survived screening pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915, survived summary judgment, or where the legal importance or difficulty of the issues is evident. In addition to providing an opportunity for public service, these cases are especially appropriate for young lawyers who might otherwise not have the experience of trying a civil case to a jury in federal court.

Reasonable costs expended may be reimbursable pursuant to Standing Order DLC-47. In addition, if the plaintiff obtains a favorable judgment, the attorney may seek attorneys' fees from the defendants.

The Court actively seeks qualified attorneys to join the panel, and we ask you to consider volunteering your services to this important effort. Please complete the application form included in this packet and submit it along with your application for admission.

STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The standards of professional conduct of attorneys appearing in this court include the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct and the Montana Rules of Professional Conduct. For a willful violation of any professional rules or standards in connection with any pending matter, an attorney is subject to appropriate disciplinary action and to referral of the matter to the appropriate authority for disciplinary proceedings.

Attorney discipline, suspension, and disbarment are addressed in Appendix B to the Local Rules. Please ensure that you are familiar with your obligations under this Appendix. In particular, please note that every attorney admitted to practice before the Court must notify the Clerk of Court upon receiving notice from any jurisdiction that a disciplinary authority has found probable cause to believe conduct warranting discipline has occurred and upon notice of the imposition of discipline in any other jurisdiction.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF:

PETITION FOR ADMISSION AS ATTORNEY

_____
(*full name of applicant*)

I _____ hereby petition for admission to the Bar of the United States District Court for the District of Montana. In support of this petition, I certify that: 1) I am a member in good standing with the Montana State Bar; and 2) that I have read and am familiar with the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Federal Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedure, and the Local Rules of this Court.

(1) PERSONAL DATA:

Name: _____

Agency/firm affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State:_____ Zip: _____

Phone number: _____ Fax number: _____

E-mail address: _____

(2) BAR ADMISSIONS INFORMATION:

(a) Date admitted to the Montana State Bar and bar number (include date(s) of reinstatement to the bar, if applicable):

_____
(Date Admitted) *(Bar Number)*

(b) Other state bar admission(s), dates of admission and bar number(s):

_____

(c) Other federal court admission(s) and date(s) of admission:

_____

(3) CERTIFICATION OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS (*select applicable box(es)*)**:**

☐ I am not now, nor have I ever been subject to any disciplinary action by the Montana State Bar or any other bar association of which I am a member.

☐ I am currently or have been subject to disciplinary action by the Montana State Bar or any other bar association of which I am a member.

☐ I have been reinstated to the Montana State Bar.

(4) CM/ECF REGISTRATION:

I acknowledge that I will become a registered user of the Court's case management and electronic case filing system (CM/ECF), using the CM/ECF User Registration Form and upon approval of this application, I will receive electronic service pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. 5(b)(2)(E) and the Local Rules of the District of Montana.

DATED: _____.

_____

(*Signature* of applicant)

SPONSOR CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned member of the Bar of the United States District Court for the District of Montana, hereby certify that _____ is of good moral character and a member in good standing of the State Bar of Montana.

(Sponsor's Signature) :_____

Sponsor's name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Telephone no.: _____

E-mail address: _____

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF MONTANA

Attorney Oath Card

Full Name	
Firm Name	Telephone Number
Address	
City	State Zip Code

OATH ON ADMISSION

I, _____, DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) THAT AS AN ATTORNEY AND AS A COUNSELOR OF THIS COURT I WILL CONDUCT MYSELF UPRIGHTLY AND ACCORDING TO THE LAW, AND THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

Date *Signature* *Bar I.D. No.*

BELOW FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Sworn and Subscribed before me,	Date

Admitted on Motion of: (movant)

_____

Receipt No.:

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MONTANA

APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT PRO BONO PANEL

Acknowledgement of Terms

I _____, attorney at law and member in good standing of the bar of the United States District Court for the District of Montana, have read and understand the U.S. District Court Civil Pro Bono Panel Procedures (Standing Order DLC-47) and wish to have my name added to the list of attorneys willing to accept representation of litigants the Court has deemed eligible to receive pro bono services. I understand that, according to the program procedures, I may be appointed to represent a pro se plaintiff or defendant and that I may be appointed for a limited purpose, for all purposes, or for other purposes.

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Firm Name: _____

Bar Number:

Telephone no.: _____

E-mail: _____

Practice Areas

Please select the practice area(s) for which you have subject matter expertise:

- ☐ Employment discrimination – Employer
- ☐ Employment discrimination – Employee
- ☐ Social Security disability
- ☐ Real property disputes
- ☐ Personal injury
- ☐ Insurance defense
- ☐ Prisoner civil rights
- ☐ Corporate litigation
- ☐ Other (please list below)

Conflicts of Interest

Does your practice include representation of state, county, or municipal government entities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Apart from government conflicts, please list any other major client conflicts here:

_____

Case Assignment

How many pro bono cases are you willing to take in a given year? _____

Apart from the conflicts above, are there any types of cases that you do not want to be assigned to? If so, please list them here:

Application Certification

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I accept the terms set forth above and agree to participate in the U.S. District Court Civil Pro Bono Panel.

_____

Signature