

V

Cause Number \_\_\_\_\_

**DEMAND TO REPRESENT SELF IN CRIMINAL CASE AND WAIVER OF RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY**

I hereby waive the right to be represented by an attorney and demand to represent myself. I understand that if I could not afford to hire my own attorney, the court could appoint an attorney to represent me. I am not under the influence of any alcohol, drugs, or medications that could affect my ability to understand I am doing today. I understand I may have any number of defenses which apply to my case and which an attorney is trained to know that I might miss because I’m not an attorney.

I understand the range of penalties for crimes are as follows:

Level	Minimum Days	Maximum Days	Range of fine
C misdemeanor	0	60 days	\$0-500
B misdemeanor	0	180	\$0-1,000
A misdemeanor	0	365	\$0-5,000
Level 6 felony	180	900	\$0-10,000

I understand an attorney would have the skillset to:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Investigate my case, interrogate witnesses against me, and find favorable witnesses and obtain their testimony;</li> <li>(2) Explain charges and any lesser-included offenses;</li> <li>(3) Gather documents and other kinds of written evidence;</li> <li>(4) Prepare and file motions before trial such as motions for speedy trial, motions for discovery, or motions to keep unfavorable information from being received as evidence;</li> <li>(5) Examine and cross-examine witnesses at trial;</li> <li>(6) Recognize objectionable and unfavorable evidence and promptly object to its use;</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(7) Present favorable sentencing information that may decrease my sentence and attack unfavorable sentencing information offered by the State which might increase my sentence;</li> <li>(8) In jury trials, present favorable opening and closing statements, prepare appropriate written jury instructions, and select a jury;</li> <li>(9) preserve the record of the case for purposes of an appeal;</li> <li>(10) evaluate the strengths or weaknesses of my case and give me expert advice on whether I should attempt to seek a plea agreement with the State of Indiana which may result in the dismissal of some of the charges and a recommendation for a favorable sentence in return for your plea of guilty.</li> </ul> |
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I understand if I represent myself, the court will treat me like a lawyer and the court will not cut me any slack because I am not an attorney. I will have to follow all the same rules and procedures as an attorney. I understand the State will be represented by an attorney and will have the advantage that an attorney presents. I understand that if my case turns out badly, I cannot blame anyone else for my

defense. I understand that deciding not to have an attorney can turn out to be a very bad decision. I understand that experienced lawyers almost always decide to be represented by another lawyer in a criminal case. My skills or knowledge helpful in representing myself include the following:

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I have studied criminal law  YES  NO

I have previous experience with the criminal justice system?  YES  NO

I have previously participated in a (jury) trial?  YES  NO

My highest level of education is \_\_\_\_\_.

I can read and write well?  YES  NO

I am a good speaker?  YES  NO

I can quickly become familiar with large numbers of special rules and procedures and use them the right way in a pressure situation such as my own trial?  YES  NO

No promises or suggestions have been made from anyone that indicating I will receive special treatment or a milder sentence if I do not have an attorney.  TRUE  FALSE

No threats have been made to threaten me or someone else in attempt to harm or disadvantage me any way for not having an attorney?  TRUE  FALSE

Do you have any questions? \_\_\_\_\_

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**I WANT TO REPRESENT MYSELF. NEITHER HIRED NOR APPOINTED COUNSEL WILL REPRESENT ME.**

I have read this advisement and by my signature knowingly, intelligently, and intentionally waive my right to counsel.

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Defendant signature and date