

May 7 2015



Case Number: AF 07-0393



# Smith & Stephens

-P.C. Law Offices -

JOHN E. SMITH, Esq. john@smithstephens.com

colin@smithstephens.com

BRIANA E. KOTTKE, Esq. briana@smithstephens.com

Downtown Missoula 315 West Pine P.O. Box 7337 Missoula, MT 59807 (406) 721-0300 (406) 721-5370 Fax www.smithandstephenspc.com

AMANDA M. JOHNSON, paralegal amanda@smithstephens.com

BEN M. DARROW, paralegal ben@smithstephens.com

carol@smithstephens.com

May 5, 2015

Ed Smith Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court Room 323, Justice Building Helena, MT 2033003 Helena, MT 59620-3003



MAY 07 2015

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT

STATE OF MONTANA

Mr. Smith:

It is my pleasure to introduce to you and the Montana Supreme Court, E. Lars Phillips. Mr. Phillips is about to be a third-year law student and has completed all of the necessary paperwork. As of May 18, 2015, he will have completed all credit hours to appear as a student practitioner pursuant to the Student Practice Rules of the University of Montana School of Law and the Court's Order and Amended Order No. 12982. The "Dean's Certification of Student's Moral Character and Legal Competence" notes that it is subject to Mr. Phillips's "successful completion of spring semester courses."

It is my intention of have Mr. Phillips assist me in *Marble v. State*, Supreme Court No. DA 13-0763. That case will be orally argued after Mr. Phillips has completed the spring semester but before the students receive their grades. I have been assured by the law school Mr. Phillips has done remarkably well his spring semester. I have also attached an unofficial copy of his transcripts to support the idea that it is highly likely that he will successfully complete the spring semester.

Mr. Phillips has been assisting myself and the Montana Innocence Project on Mr. Marble's case since Mr. Phillips's first year in law school. That first year, Mr. Phillips found countless volunteer hours to devote to the Montana Innocence Project despite having no requirement to do so. He has analyzed the Court's decision in *State v. Beach*, and the district court's decision in Marble which is the issue on appeal. Additionally, Mr. Phillips has written numerous memos on the subject and helped develop the briefing in this case. His law review article, schedule to be published in the Montana Law Review's next edition, addresses the Court's decision in *Beach II* and the district court's opinion in Marble's case.

The client, Mr. Marble, knows Mr. Phillips from working at the Montana Innocence Project and is eager to have Mr. Phillips assist.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

SMITH & STEPHENS, P.C.

Colin M. Stephens

# SUPERVISING ATTORNEY'S APPROVAL OF STUDENT APPEARANCE

Cody William Masble, ) Plaintiff/Appellant )	Court: Supreme court for the State of Montana
vs. )	Case No. DA 13-0763
State of Montage ) Defendant/Appellee	
I, the undersigned, am the attorney of red <u>Cody William Marble</u> that	cord in the above-entitled case. I represent and have explained to the client
that ' (name of client)	
s/he is being represented by a student pra	acticing under my supervision.
I have supervised and counseled with E. Lars Phillips	•
	(name of student)
who is working under my supervision. I and	consent that the student may try this case
represent the client in this action, pursuan	nt to the Student Practice Rules of the
Supreme Court of Montana and the Unite	ed States District Court for the District of
Montana.	
	5/5/15
Supervising Attorney's Signature	Date

## CLIENT'S AUTHORIZATION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATION

I, Cody William Marke of Colin m. Strphens	, a client
client's name	name of law firm
am aware that I am to be represented by a la student will be supervised by an attorney. T explained to me. I agree to be represented b federal court consistent with the Student Pra	he status of the student has been y that law student in either state or
Montana and the United States District Cour	t for the District of Montana.
Coses William Marlel	

VELDA FRIESEN NOTARY PUBLIC

Client's Signature

EXP 02.01.19

Date 5 -/ - 15

Uno	ier the M	<b>I</b> ontan	a Student Practic	e Rule	, E.La	ers Phillips	will be su	pervised
by	Colin	M.	Stephens	of	Student 315	s Name W. Pine	- Missoul	4 59862
	Supervisi	ng Attorne	y			Attorney's mailing add		zip

### **DEAN'S CERTIFICATION** OF STUDENT'S MORAL CHARACTER AND LEGAL COMPETENCE -

#### SUBJECT TO SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF **SPRING SEMESTER COURSES**

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, E. Lacs Phillips
is duly enrolled in the University of Montana School of Law, which is approved by
the American Bar Association; has completed legal studies amounting to at least
two-thirds (2/3) of the total credit hours required for graduation (or is within five
credit hours of meeting this requirement) subject to successful completion of all
spring semester courses; is of good character; has competent legal ability; and is
adequately trained to perform as a legal intern.
Elare Darvardi 4/27/15

Date

School of Law
The University of Montana

### STUDENT'S CERTIFICATE

I, E. Lars Phillips	_, hereby certify that I have read, am
familiar with, and will abide by the Montana F	Rules of Professional Conduct. I
understand that these Rules track the American	n Bar Association Model Rules of
Professional Conduct and have been regularly	interpreted by the Ethics Committee
of the State Bar of Montana.	
E. Las Phillips Name (please print)	
Name (please print)	1
Lars Phillip	4/21/2015
Signature	'Date'