



COMMISSION ON CHARACTER AND FITNESS OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

FILED

03/21/2024

Bowen Greenwood CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: DA 23-0575

33 South Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B • P.O. BOX 577 • HELENA, MONTANA 59624 (406) 442-7660 Fax (406) 442-7763 Web Site: www.montanabar.org

DA23-0575

FILED

MAR 22 2024

Bowen Greenwood Clerk of Supreme Court State of Montana

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March 22, 2024

Clerk of the Supreme Court Bowen Greenwood PO Box 203003 Helena, MT 59620-3003

RE: Montana Pro Hac Vice Application

Dear Clerk:

Enclosed is a copy of an application to appear pro hac vice before your court or agency from the attorney listed below:

Robert A Skinner Ropes & Gray, LLP Prudential Tower 800 Boylston St. Boston, MA 02199

The attorney has complied with the rules governing a pro hac vice appearance and is currently in good standing with the other state or jurisdiction(s) in which they are admitted. Further, the Montana counsel listed in the application is in good standing with the State Bar of Montana.

This is the 1st appearance for the attorney and the 1st appearance for the firm. under the pro hac vice rules. Section VI(C) of the Rules for Admission to the State Bar of Montana states: Except upon a showing of good cause, no attorney or firm may appear pro hac vice in more than two actions or proceedings in any state court or administrative agency in Montana. Please provide my office with a copy of your decision to grant or deny this application. Please contact me at (406) 447-2210 if you have questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Kathie Lynch

Kathie Lynch Bar Admissions Administrator

Enclosure

Cc: Robert A skinner Alex Rate

Atty Status	Jurisdiction(s) MA ✓ NY ✓
Discipline	None
Appearance: Applicant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Firm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MT Attorney	SBM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ODC <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(Boxes for State Bar use only.)

#P6880959

33-24	
Application Number	3-20-24 LF
Date Received	Staff Initials
\$515	online
Fee Paid	Check No.
3-22-24	
Date Sent to Court or Agency	

STATE BAR OF MONTANA  
P.O. Box 577, Helena, MT 59624  
Street Address: 33 S. Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1B, Helena, MT 59601  
Telephone: (406) 442-7660  
Fax: (406) 442-7763

**PRO HAC VICE APPLICATION**

The original application must be submitted to the State Bar of Montana with a fee of \$515.00 for each *pro hac vice* appearance requested **and** a certificate of good standing from each state the attorney is a member of.

- |    |                   |              |                              |
|----|-------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Robert A. Skinner | 617-951-7000 | robert.skinner@ropesgray.com |
|    | Applicant's Name  | Phone        | E-Mail                       |
- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 2. | Ropes & Gray LLP  |
|    | Firm Name (List all firm(s) with which you are associated.) |
- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 3. | Prudential Tower, 800 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02199 |
|    | Office Address                                       |
- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 4. | 74 Hillcrest Parkway, Winchester, MA 01890 |
|    | Residence Address                          |
- List the name, address, and telephone number of the active member of the State Bar of Montana who is the attorney of record in the case for which this application is being made.

Alex Rate	406-203-3375
Attorney & Firm Name	Daytime Phone Number
ACLU of Montana, P.O. Box 1968, Missoula, MT 59806	
Address	City
	State
	Zip
- List all state and federal courts in which you have been admitted to practice and the dates of admission **and provide certification of good standing for each State only.** **Do not** include pro hac vice admissions.

A. State Courts: Massachusetts (12/21/1994); New York (09/18/2023)

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B. Federal Courts: U.S. District Courts for Massachusetts (03/24/1995); Central District of Illinois (05/18/2016); U.S. Court of Appeals for 1st Cir. (11/09/1995); 2d Cir. (10/05/2005); D.C. (11/09/1995); 7th Cir. (04/06/2007); 8th Cir. (08/21/2007); 9th Cir. (12/02/2015); US Supreme Ct.(11/14/2005

7. Are you currently suspended, disbarred, or otherwise not licensed to practice in any of the above courts?  
If so, attach copies of all relevant court documents or disciplinary documents.      \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ X No
8. Are you subject to pending disciplinary proceedings in any jurisdiction?      \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ X No  
If so, attach a description of the nature and status of each pending disciplinary proceeding.
9. Do you maintain a residence in Montana?      \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ X No
10. Are you regularly employed in Montana?      \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ X No
11. Are you regularly engaged in the practice of law or in substantial business or professional activities in Montana?      \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ X No
12. Do you have an application for admission to the State Bar of Montana pending?      \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ X No
13. List the title of each state court and cause in Montana in which you **OR YOUR FIRM** have filed an application to appear as counsel pro hac vice, the date of each application, and whether it was granted or denied. (*Do not list Federal court pro hac vice appearances.*)

**List the current title, court, and cause number for which you are applying.**

Title, Court, Cause #	County	Date	Granted: (Yes, No)
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A. **Previous Cases:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Neither Ropes & Gray LLP nor the Montana Bar Association have any records showing  
the firm has previously appeared in Montana.  
\_\_\_\_\_

B. **CURRENT Case:** (please include County) \_\_\_\_\_  
Supreme Court of Montana, No. DA 23-0575; Rikki Held, et al., v. State of Montana, et al.  
\_\_\_\_\_

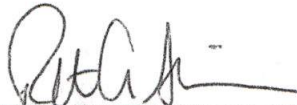
14. I agree to comply with the applicable statutes, laws, and procedural rules of the State of Montana. I further agree to be bound by the Montana Rules of Professional Conduct (except as to Rules 6.1-6.4) and will submit to the jurisdiction of the Montana courts, the Montana disciplinary process, and the State Bar of Montana with respect to acts and omissions occurring during admission under this application.
15. I understand that a lawyer not admitted to practice in Montana is subject to the disciplinary authority of Montana for conduct that constitutes a violation of the Montana Rules of Professional Conduct and that: a) involves the practice of law in Montana by that lawyer; or b) involves that lawyer holding himself or herself out as practicing law in Montana; or c) involves the practice of law in Montana by another lawyer over whom this lawyer has the obligation of supervision or control.
16. I state that payment has been made to the State Bar of Montana in accordance with the requirements of Section IV of the Rules for Admission and in accordance with the requirements of Rule 6 of the Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement.
17. I understand I have an on-going obligation to advise the State Bar of Montana and court/administrative agency if my standing or status changes in any of the jurisdictions in which I am admitted during the term of my pro hac vice admission.

18. I agree to provide the State Bar of Montana with the court or administrative agency's order to grant or deny this application. (All applications will be counted as an appearance unless the State Bar of Montana is advised the application was denied by the Court.)
19. I agree to notify the State Bar of Montana of any appeals if the case is referred to a higher court. (If the above action proceeds to a court of higher jurisdiction, I understand the appealed case will not be counted as an additional appearance.)
20. I agree to provide current certificates of good standing from the jurisdiction(s) in which I am admitted.
21. I understand that the \$515.00 assessment is an **annual** assessment and agree to promptly pay the assessment as long as this proceeding is pending before a Montana administrative agency or any Montana court (except federal court).

State of New York

County of New York

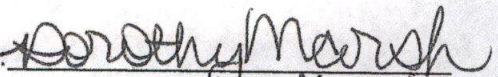
The above statements are true based upon applicant's knowledge and belief. Further, I agree to submit to the pro hac vice rules, the Montana Rules of Professional Conduct, and the Montana Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement.

  
Signature of Applicant

3/19/2024  
Date

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me this 19th day of March, 2024.

(SEAL)

Notary Signature:   
Printed Name of Notary: Dorothy Marsh  
Notary Public for the State of: New York  
Residing in: New York State  
My commission expires: 05/22/2027

ATTACH: Certificate(s) of Good Standing  
\$515.00 Pro Hac Vice Fee

**DOROTHY MARSH**  
Notary Public, State of New York  
No. 01MA4951537  
Qualified in Westchester County  
Commission Expires 05/22/2027

Rules and information about pro hac vice are available on the State Bar's website at [www.montanabar.org](http://www.montanabar.org).  
Please direct questions to Kathie Lynch: [klynch@montanabar.org](mailto:klynch@montanabar.org) or (406) 447-2210.