

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

No. DA 12-0166

ORIGINAL

STATE OF MONTANA,

Plaintiff and Appellee,

v.

JEFFREY GRANT WHITE,

Defendant and Appellant.

FILED

JUN 12 2012

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA**STUDENT PRACTICE PETITION REGARDING VALERIE RITZ**

Koan Mercer, counsel for Appellant, respectfully petitions the Court to allow law student Valerie Ritz to practice before the Court in this matter pursuant to the Montana Student Practice Rule. Ms. Ritz is enrolled as a clinical student with the University of Montana School of Law's Office of the Appellate Defender Clinic. Undersigned counsel is the Supervising Attorney for this clinic and will be the supervising lawyer for Ms. Ritz's practice before this Court. Ms. Ritz appears to undersigned counsel to be a bright and dedicated individual who will provide competent legal service. Undersigned counsel approves of Ms. Ritz's appearance in this matter.

As required by the Student Practice Rule, the following documents are attached in support of this Petition: written consent to Ms. Ritz's appearance by Appellant Jeffrey Grant White (Ex. A); certification of Ms. Ritz by the University

of Montana Law School Dean (Ex. B); and certification by Ms. Ritz that she has read and will abide by the Montana Rules of Professional Conduct (Ex. C). Undersigned counsel requests the Court to consider the above Petition as satisfying the Rule's additional requirements for the supervising lawyer's written approval of Ms. Ritz's appearance and for an introduction of Ms. Ritz to the Court by an attorney admitted to practice before the Court.

Respectfully submitted this the 10th day of June, 2012.

OFFICE OF THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER
Appellate Defender Office
301 South Park, Room 568
P.O. Box 200145
Helena, MT 59620-0145

By: Koan Mercer
KOAN MERCER
Assistant Appellate Defender

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I caused a true and accurate copy of the foregoing
Student Practice Petition Regarding Valerie Ritz to be e-mailed, hand-delivered,
and/or mailed to:

STEVE BULLOCK
Montana Attorney General
MARK MATTIOLI
Assistant Attorney General
215 North Sanders
P.O. Box 201401
Helena, MT 59620-1401

SCOTT TWITO
Yellowstone County Attorney
P.O. Box 35025
Billings, MT 59107-5025
(by e-mail delivery)

JEFFREY GRANT WHITE #3008733
Great Falls Regional Prison
3800 Ulm North Frontage Road
Great Falls, MT 59404

DATED: _____

6.12.12

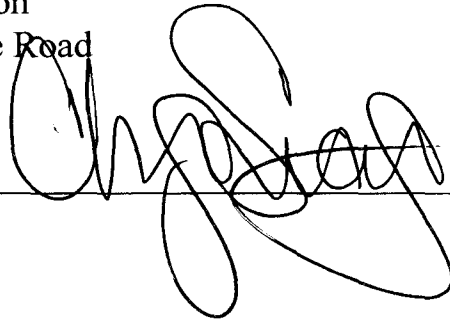
A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Jeffrey Grant White, is written over a horizontal line.

EXHIBIT 1

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

No. DA 12-0166

JEFFREY GRANT WHITE,

Petitioner and Appellant,

v.

STATE OF MONTANA,

Respondent and Appellee.

CLIENT CONSENT TO STUDENT PRACTICE

I, Jeffrey Grant White, the Appellant and Petitioner in this case, hereby consent to law student Valerie Ritz appearing on my behalf in this matter under the supervision of my appointed attorney, Koan Mercer.

Dated this the 1 day of June, 2012.



Jeffrey Grant White
Appellant

EXHIBIT 2

Under the Montana Student Practice Rule, Valerie Ritz will be
supervised by Office of the Appellate Defender
Kean Mercer of 610 N. Woody Missoula MT 59802
Supervising Attorney Supervising Attorney's mailing address city 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, Valerie Ritz
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.

Irma P. Russell, Dean's Designee
Irma Russell, Dean
School of Law
The University of Montana

5/31/2012

Date

EXHIBIT 3

Form 2

STUDENT'S CERTIFICATE

I, Valerie Ritz, hereby certify that I have read, am familiar with, and will abide by the Montana Rules of Professional Conduct. I understand that these Rules track the American Bar Association Model Rules of Professional Conduct and have been regularly interpreted by the Ethics Committee of the State Bar of Montana.

Valerie Ritz
Name (please print)

Valerie Ritz
Signature

5/29/12
Date