

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

FRANK MILFORD PECK,  
Appellant,  
vs.  
VALLEY HOSPITAL MEDICAL  
CENTER; DAVID R. ZIPF, M.D.; AND  
MICHAEL D. BARNUM, M.D.,  
Respondents.

No. 68664

**FILED**

**DEC 07 2015**

TRACIE K. LINDEMAN  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
BY S. Young  
DEPUTY CLERK

*ORDER REGARDING PRO BONO COUNSEL*

This is an appeal from a district court order dismissing a complaint for medical negligence. Appellant is proceeding without legal representation in this appeal. Having considered the record and the civil proper person appeal statement filed by appellant, this court has determined that the appointment of pro bono counsel to represent appellant would assist this court in reviewing this appeal. By this order, the court expresses no opinion as to the merits of this appeal.

Pro bono counsel is an attorney who provides legal services without charge for the benefit of the public good. The appointment of pro bono counsel provides attorneys with an opportunity to volunteer legal services in furtherance of their professional responsibility and, at the same time, allows financially eligible litigants access to quality legal representation without cost. Counsel will be appointed for purposes of this appeal only and will participate in oral argument. Currently, the Pro Bono Committee of the Appellate Litigation Section of the State Bar of Nevada (Pro Bono Committee), in conjunction with the Legal Aid Center of

Southern Nevada, has developed a pro bono appellate program to assist the public and this court. This case is hereby referred to the program established by the Pro Bono Committee to evaluate whether appellant can benefit from the program.

Accordingly, we direct the clerk of this court to transmit a copy of this order and the attached case summary to the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada for financial eligibility screening. If appellant qualifies and does not object to pro bono counsel, the Legal Aid Center in cooperation with the Pro Bono Committee shall locate a volunteer attorney from the program to represent appellant. Once an attorney is located, the attorney shall file a notice of appearance in this court within 60 days from the date of this order. Supplemental briefing and oral argument will be scheduled thereafter. Alternatively, if appellant is not financially eligible or objects to pro bono representation, or if a volunteer attorney cannot be located, the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada shall notify this court in writing within 60 days from the date of this order. In such case, oral argument will not be held, and this matter will remain subject to the provisions of the court's pilot program for civil litigants proceeding without counsel and shall stand submitted on the civil proper person appeal statement and the record.

It is so ORDERED.

Handeeth, C.J.

cc: Frank Milford Peck  
Law Offices of Arthur W. Tuverson  
Alverson Taylor Mortensen & Sanders  
Hall Prangle & Schoonveld, LLC/Las Vegas  
Eighth District Court Clerk  
Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, Barbara E. Buckley,  
Executive Director  
Anne R. Traum, Coordinator, Appellate Litigation Section,  
Pro Bono Committee, State Bar of Nevada  
Kelly Dove

*Peck v. Valley Hosp. Med. Ctr.*, Docket No. 68664

Appellant is an inmate at High Desert State Prison. He was hospitalized and treated for viral meningitis and released. He complains that he has a foreign body in his hand - apparently a needle guide left in his hand from a blood draw. He filed a complaint against the hospital and doctors. Defendant Valley Hospital was granted a motion to quash service of the complaint; and the district court summarily granted judgment on the pleadings in favor of the remaining parties.