

SB 2216  
68<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
January 25, 2023  
Testimony of Travis W. Finck, Executive Director, NDCLCI

Madam Chair Larson, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, my name is Travis Finck and I am the Executive Director for the North Dakota Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents. The Commission is the state agency responsible for the delivery of indigent defense services in North Dakota. I rise today on behalf of the Commission to provide testimony in support of SB 2216.

The Commission represents individuals charged with a crime when there is a constitutional, statutory or rule based right to counsel. Many of the times our attorneys are appointed to represent defendants who are involved in the “critical incidents” this bill addresses. The Commission supports keeping the defendant’s address and telephone number confidential. The only interest in obtaining this information is potential retribution. The Commission’s attorneys have a duty to safeguard their client to the best of their ability and this bill is a move in the right direction.

Madam Chair, members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, for the reasons stated herein, the Commission on Legal Counsel urges a DO PASS recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted:



Travis W. Finck  
Executive Director, NDCLCI