


FILED
DATE: 1/7/15 TIME: 9:30 am/pm
By: 
CLERK, FSM SUPREME COURT
POHNPEI
TRIAL DIVISION

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**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
TRIAL DIVISION - POHNPEI STATE**

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA,

Plaintiff,

v.

NGUYEN TAI

Defendant.

CRIMINAL CASE NO:
NO.: 2014-504

ORDER

On December 31, 2014, Assistant Public Defender Timoci Romanu (Romanu) filed a Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice pursuant to Rule IV(A) of the FSM Rules for the Admission to Practice. Attached to this application was an Affidavit of Timoci Romanu in support of Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice, certified copy of his Bachelor of Law degree from the University of the South Pacific, a Certificate of Admission to the Bar and [a letter] of Good Standing of the Applicant from the High Court in Fiji.


Pursuant to the FSM Rules for Admission to Practice the court has the authority to admit an attorney to appear for a particular case. “Whether to admit an attorney Pro Hac Vice is in the court’s sound discretion.” In re Chikamoto, 4 FSM Intrm. 245, 248 (Pon. 1990). Admission to appear for a particular case “is liberally granted.” Truk Transp. Co. v. Trans Pacific Import Ltd., 3 FSM Intrm. 440, 443 (Truk 1988). Rule IV (A) requires the court to consider, among other things, the “complexity of the case” and any other factors “in the interest of justice.” For complex litigation this court generally requires any attorney

1 who is not a member of the FSM bar to affiliate with a supervising attorney who is a
2 member of the FSM bar, a resident, and an experienced trial attorney.

3 In his affidavit Romanu avers that he is working for the Office of the Public
4 Defenders and has been assigned to this case. He further avers that he received his Bachelor
5 of Law Degree from the University of the South Pacific in 2000, was subsequently
6 admitted to the High Court of Fiji bar, and has been practicing as a barrister and solicitor
7 therein. He further avers that in 2006, he moved to Pohnpei, is a resident, and has been
8 appearing before the FSM Supreme Court on Pro Hac Vice basis from time to time. He
9 now has over 12 years of experience as an attorney. He avers that he is of good character,
10 is still in good standing with the High Court of Fiji, has never been convicted of any crime,
11 and has no charges currently pending against him. Furthermore, he avers that he plans to
12 take the FSM bar in March of 2015, and will be supervised by Chief Public Defender Julius
13 Sapelalut.
14

15 Upon CONSIDERATION of the file and record contained herein, the court finds
16 that it is in the interest of justice and the motion is GRANTED. The materials submitted
17 by Romanu substantially support his admission to appear pro hac vice in the FSM Supreme
18 Court without the physical presence of his supervising attorney, Sapelalut.

19 It is so ORDERED this 6th day of January, 2015.
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22 _____
23 Hon. Beauleen Carl-Worswick
24 Associate Justice
25 FSM Supreme Court

ENTERED this 7th day of January, 2015.


X Chief Clerk of Court

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