

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

*In re WATTS COORDINATED PRETRIAL  
PROCEEDINGS*

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)  
) Case No. 1:19-cv-01717  
)  
) Judge Franklin U. Valderrama  
)  
) Related Case No. 1:16-cv-08940, 1:17-cv-  
) 02877, 1:17-cv-05156, 1:17-cv-07241,  
) 1:18-cv-03474, 1:18-cv-03477, 1:18-cv-  
) 03478, 1:18-cv-05119, 1:18-cv-05120,  
) 1:18-cv-05121, 1:18-cv-05122, 1:18-cv-  
) 05123, 1:18-cv-05124, 1:18-cv-05125,  
) 1:18-cv-05126, 1:18-cv-05127, 1:18-cv-  
) 05128,

**ZACHARY A. PESTINE'S MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL**

Zachary A. Pestine, pursuant to Local Rule 83.17, respectfully moves to withdraw his appearance on behalf of Defendant RONALD WATTS (“Defendant”). In support of this Motion, Mr. Pestine states as follows:

1. On February 28, 2020, Zachary A. Pestine, a former attorney with Johnson & Bell, Ltd., filed his appearance as counsel on behalf of Defendant.
2. Ahmed A. Kosoko, Brian P. Gainer, Lisa M. McElroy, Monica Burkoth, Jack E. Bentley, also attorneys with Johnson & Bell, Ltd., filed appearances on behalf of Defendant.
3. Mr. Pestine left the employ of Johnson & Bell, Ltd., on June 18, 2021.
4. Accordingly, Mr. Pestine requests leave of court to withdraw his appearance as counsel of record for Defendant.
5. Ahmed A. Kosoko, Brian P. Gainer, Lisa M. McElroy, Monica Burkoth, Jack E. Bentley, will remain as counsel of record for Defendant.
6. The withdrawal of Mr. Pestine is not interposed for the purposes of harassment or

delay, and no party will be prejudiced by the Court's granting of this Motion.

**WHEREFORE**, Zachary A. Pestine respectfully requests leave of this Court to withdraw as counsel of record for Defendant RONALD WATTS.

DATED: July 23, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Zachary A. Pestine

Zachary A. Pestine (ARDC No. 6324485)  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned attorney hereby certifies that on July 23, 2021, he filed the foregoing ***Zachary A. Pestine's Motion to Withdraw as Counsel*** electronically with the Clerk of Court using the ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record via the Court's CM/ECF system.

/s/ Zachary A. Pestine

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