# In the Iowa District Court in and for Polk County

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| **State of Iowa**  *Plaintiff*  **v.**  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,**  *Defendant* | **Criminal No(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **Waiver of Attorney** |
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**PLEASE READ EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE BRING THEM TO THE ATTENTION OF THE JUDGE.**

1. I have been charged with a crime. I understand the nature of the charge and the possible punishment.
2. I have the right to have an attorney at every stage of my case, including arraignment, pretrial conference, plea negotiations, trial, plea and/or sentencing. I also have the right to have an attorney if and when I negotiate with the prosecutor regarding a plea agreement.
3. The prosecutor is not on my side of the case and does not represent my interests. If I have any questions, I have the right to speak to the Judge instead of the prosecutor.
4. If I am unable to afford an attorney, the Court will appoint one at the expense of the State of Iowa.
5. By agreeing to speak with the prosecutor during arraignment, pretrial, plea negotiations, trial, plea and/or sentencing, I give up the right to remain silent and any statements I make can be used against me in a court of law.
6. There may be defenses to a criminal charge that I may not recognize. An attorney may be helpful to evaluate the case against me including possible defenses and the admissibility of evidence. By giving up my right to an attorney, I give up the chance to get an independent opinion whether it is wise to plead guilty given the law and the facts of my case.
7. I can give up my right to have an attorney present for any of these proceedings: Plea negotiations with the prosecutor, arraignment, pretrial, trial, plea and/or sentencing.
8. I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years of age and my educational background is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am able to understand the nature of the charges, the purpose and value of an attorney, and the possible risks of proceeding without an attorney.
9. I have fully considered my right to be represented by an attorney. Understanding that right, I knowingly and voluntarily give up the right and instead I choose to exercise the right to proceed without an attorney’s advice and guidance. This is my decision. No promises, threats or force have been made to get me to make this decision.
10. If I am convicted, or granted a deferred judgment, that result can be used to enhance future offenses-in other words, future charges for the same offense(s) could be more serious and could have more serious punishments.

**I UNDERSTAND MY RIGHTS. I GIVE UP MY RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY FOR ALL PROCEEDINGS IN THIS CASE AND I CHOOSE TO PROCEED WITHOUT AN ATTORNEY. NO PROMISES OR THREATS HAVE BEEN MADE AND NO FORCE HAS BEEN USED TO GET ME TO MAKE THIS DECISION. I KNOWINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY GIVE UP MY RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY AND I UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY WITHDRAW THIS WAIVER AT ANY TIME.**

**By signing below, I acknowledge that I read and understood the statements above and all of the statements are true and correct.**

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Defendant’s Signature Date