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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

John Doneld Womack,	)	No. CV-12-1524-PHX-SRB (LOA)
Plaintiff,	)	<b>ORDER</b>
vs.	)	
GEO Group Incorporated,	)	
Defendant.	)	

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This matter is before the Court on Plaintiff’s “Motion Not to Allow Change of Attorney for Defendant GEO” and Defendant’s Motion to Strike Plaintiff’s “Motion Not to Allow Change of Attorney for Defendant GEO.” (Docs. 73, 74) Plaintiff has filed a Response to Defendant’s Motion to Strike. (Doc. 76)

Plaintiff requests in his motion that Defendant’s previous attorney of record, Scott A. Alles, not be permitted to withdraw from further representation because he has not sought the Court’s or Plaintiff’s Consent. Plaintiff further contends there are ongoing discovery disputes involving attorney Scott A. Alles.

Civil Rule of Practice for the District Court of Arizona (“Local Rule” or “LRCiv”) 83.3(b)(4) permits a private law firm that has appeared as counsel of record to substitute an attorney who is a member of that firm by simply filing a notice with the Court. The notice must provide the names of the attorneys who are the subjects of the substitution along with the current address and e-mail address of the attorney substituting. LRCiv 83.3(b)(4).

Here, Defendant filed a Notice of Change of Attorney Within Firm on September 18,

1 2013. (Doc. 69) The Notice indicates that Attorney Pari K. Scroggin is replacing Attorney  
2 Scott A. Alles as counsel for Defendant in this case. Both attorneys are with the Scottsdale law  
3 firm of Manning & Kass, Ellrod, Ramirez, Trester, LLP. The Notice further provides Attorney  
4 Scroggin's current mailing and e-mail addresses.

5 Moreover, as a general rule, "doctrine of standing prohibits a litigant from raising  
6 another's legal rights." *FMC Technologies, Inc. v. Edwards*, 420 F.Supp.2d 1153, 1156 (W.D.  
7 Wash. 2006) (citing, *inter alia*, *Allen v. Wright*, 468 U.S. 737, 750–51 (1984)). "[O]nly a  
8 current or former client of an attorney has standing to complain of that attorney's representation  
9 of interests adverse to that current or former client." *Id.* (quoting *Colyer v. Smith*, 50 F.Supp.2d  
10 966, 969 (C.D.Cal. 1999)). Because there is no evidence that Attorney Pari K. Scroggin has  
11 previously represented Plaintiff, Plaintiff lacks standing to object to Defendant's substitution  
12 of counsel.

13 The Court finds the Notice complies with LRCiv 83.3(b)(4). As a result, the substitution  
14 is allowed.<sup>1</sup> Plaintiff's motion to prohibit the substitution will be denied.

15 Regarding the motion to strike, because the Court is denying Plaintiff's motion, the  
16 motion to strike is moot and will be denied as such.

17 Accordingly,

18 **IT IS ORDERED** that Plaintiff's "Motion Not to Allow Change of Attorney for  
19 Defendant GEO," doc. 73, is **DENIED**.

20 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendant's Motion to Strike Plaintiff's "Motion  
21 Not to Allow Change of Attorney for Defendant GEO," doc. 74, is **DENIED** as moot.

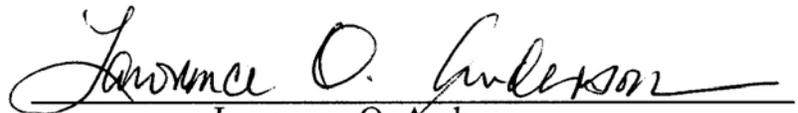
22 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that counsel and any unrepresented party must comply  
23 with the Rules of Practice for the United States District Court for the District of Arizona ("Local  
24 Rules"), as amended on December 1, 2012. The District's Local Rules may be found on the

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26 <sup>1</sup> The Court notes that Defendant's Notice of Change of Attorney Within Firm was not  
27 properly filed in text-searchable format per LRCiv 7.1(c), 5.5(b), and definition of ".pdf," in  
28 the District Court's ECF Manual, at I(A), p. 4. Future filings by Defendant that does not comply  
with the Local Rules and the District Court's ECF Manual may be stricken and progressive  
sanctions imposed to obtain compliance.

1 District Court's internet web page at [www.azd.uscourts.gov/](http://www.azd.uscourts.gov/). All other rules may be found at  
2 [www.uscourts.gov/rules/](http://www.uscourts.gov/rules/). The fact that a party is acting *pro se* does not discharge a party's  
3 duties to "abide by the rules of the court in which he litigates." *Carter v. Commissioner of*  
4 *Internal Revenue*, 784 F.2d 1006, 1008 (9th Cir. 1986).

5 DATED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013.

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8 Lawrence O. Anderson  
United States Magistrate Judge  
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