

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

RONALD LAWRENCE MORTENSEN,

Petitioner,

v.

DWIGHT D. NEVEN, et al.,

Respondents.

Case No. 2:11-cv-00266-KJD-CWH

**ORDER**

Petitioner has filed a motion of petitioner's counsel to withdraw (ECF No. 132). Counsel now is the District Attorney for Nye County, and he no longer can represent petitioner. The court grants this motion.

Petitioner also has filed a post-filing unopposed motion for extension of time (ECF No. 131). Petitioner has filed at the same time a draft third amended petition (ECF No. 130). Petitioner has not verified the third amended petition. Current counsel, who is withdrawing, asked for additional time for petitioner to determine whether to request appointment of new counsel or to proceed pro se, and whether to accept the draft third amended petition as written or to seek additional modification. ECF No. 131, at 1. The court will appoint replacement counsel because it is in the interests of justice. However, new counsel will need time to become familiar with the case, and the court will address that after it locates new counsel.

IT THEREFORE IS ORDERED that the motion of petitioner's counsel to withdraw (ECF

1 No. 132) is **GRANTED**. The representation of petitioner by Chris Arabia is **TERMINATED**.

2 IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that the clerk of the court shall forward a copy of this order  
3 to the CJA Coordinator, who shall locate substitute counsel for petitioner. The clerk of the court  
4 also shall send a copy of this order to petitioner himself, Ronald L. Mortensen, #54506, Lovelock  
5 Correctional Center, 1200 Prison Rd., Lovelock, NV 89419.

6 IT FURTHER IS ORDERED that petitioner's post-filing unopposed motion for extension  
7 of time (ECF No. 131) is **GRANTED**. The court will issue a scheduling order after it locates  
8 substitute counsel for petitioner.

9 DATED: January 10, 2019



---

10 KENT J. DAWSON  
11 United States District Judge

12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28