

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

PHILLIP WILLIAMS,

Plaintiff-Counter
Defendant-Appellee,

v

HUNTER SALES OF MICHIGAN and NEIL P.
LUND,

Defendants-Counter
Plaintiffs-Appellants.

UNPUBLISHED

November 21, 1997

No. 197240

Grand Traverse Circuit Court

LC No. 95-013943 CK

Before: Jansen, P.J., and Fitzgerald and Young, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Defendants appeal by right default and summary disposition judgments, claiming that these judgments are the product of negligence by their former counsel. Defendants seek appellate relief on a theory of ineffective assistance of counsel.

Ineffective assistance of counsel is an inapposite doctrine in ordinary civil cases. *Haller v Haller*, 168 Mich App 198; 423 NW2d 617 (1988). Absent the showing of a meritorious defense, which appellants have not attempted here, an attorney's negligence is attributable to the client and does not constitute proper grounds for setting aside a default or default judgment. *Park v American Casualty Ins Co*, 219 Mich App 62, 67; 555 NW2d 720 (1996).

Affirmed.

/s/ Kathleen Jansen

/s/ E. Thomas Fitzgerald

/s/ Robert P. Young, Jr.