

Defense Attorney Instructions

You work as an Assistant Public Defender in Greensboro, North Carolina. You have been appointed to represent to Charles Lloyd Summers. You will get the chance to do a brief interview with Mr. Summers at the jail and then argue on his behalf to have his bond reduced.

At this point, these are the only facts that you know about this case: Mr. Summers is 52 years old and charged with Felony Attempted Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon. This is a class D felony, which is punishable by up to 229 months in prison, depending on your client's record.

The defendant has five prior convictions. On 3/14/2001, the defendant was convicted of Class 3 Misdemeanor Possession of Marijuana. On 6/14/2005, the defendant was convicted of Class H Felony Larceny and Class H Felony Possession with Intent to Sell Cocaine. On 8/14/2008, the defendant was convicted of Class 1 Misdemeanor Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He thinks he missed one court appearance on the 2001 case.

Mr. Summers has written you a letter asking for you to come see him at the jail about a bond motion. He writes that he simply cannot pay \$250,000 to bond out of jail. You know from experience that because Mr. Summers was arrested only last week, it could be 4-5 months at the earliest before he could get a trial on a felony charge. You also know, from experience, that sometimes clients are willing to plead guilty in order to get out of jail, regardless of their guilt or innocence. You may consider these arguments and any others you can think of as they relate to the pretrial release factors.

When the bond motion begins, you may ask for any bond that you feel your client can make before making your supporting arguments. Remember, you also owe a duty of confidentiality to your client, so be careful not to share things that might be incriminating to your client, unless you have his permission.