



ILLINOIS APPELLATE COURT SECOND DISTRICT

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August 7, 2026

Ehab Allababidi
8516 W. Winona St.
Chicago, IL 60656

RE: People v. Allababidi, Ehab
Appeal No.: 2-26-0352
County: Lake County
Trial Court No.: 23CF1146

The court has this day, August 07, 2026, entered the following order in the above entitled case:

Appellant's motion for leave to reply is granted. However, appellant's motion to vacate the appointment of counsel, and appellant's counsel's motion to withdraw, are denied.

Appellant clearly made multiple requests for counsel, which this court could grant. Appellant's indigency was established by his application to waive court fees, and thus this court could grant appellant's requests without a remand to the circuit court.

In any event, however, this court could appoint counsel even without appellant's requests, and it can now maintain that appointment over his objection. As appellee notes, appellant has no constitutional right to represent himself. To be sure, Rule 607(a) states that, if an indigent appellant "desires counsel on appeal, the court shall appoint counsel on appeal." But this is a very far cry from stating that the court *may* appoint counsel *only* if the appellant desires counsel.

Here, the number and nature of appellant's filings make very clear that the appointment of counsel, which appellant again repeatedly requested, is necessary to maintain the integrity and efficiency of the appellate process. Accordingly, this court's order of July 31 will stand.

Jeffrey H. Kaplan
Clerk of the Court

cc: Jaime Ling Montgomery

