

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
CIVIL DIVISION**

JOHN GREGORY LAMBROS : Case Number: 2017 CA 929 B  
v. : Judge: Florence Y. Pan  
FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC : Next Hearing: May 26, 2017  
OF BRAZIL, ET AL.

ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL

This matter comes before the Court upon consideration of plaintiff's Motion for the Appointment of Counsel, filed on February 10, 2017. In plaintiff's motion, he asserts that he should be appointed counsel because he cannot afford to retain counsel, he has no formal legal education, the issues in his case are complex, and the "prison library does not contain Brazilian law books in English." See Plaintiff Mot. at 1-4. There is no right to appointment of counsel in civil cases. See, e.g., *Cloutterbuck v. Cloutterbuck*, 556 A.2d 1082, 1084 (D.C. 1989) (explaining that the 6<sup>th</sup> amendment right to counsel, bolstered by the Criminal Justice Act, is "confined to criminal proceedings"); *Williams v. Court Services & Offender Supervision Agency for D.C.*, 878 F.Supp.2d 263, 266 (D.D.C. 2012) (quoting *Brown v. Children's Nat'l Med. Ctr.*, 773 F.Supp.2d 125, 140 (D.D.C. 2011) ("no indigent civil litigant is guaranteed counsel")). Moreover, the Court does not have the resources to appoint attorneys to represent civil litigants. The Court therefore is constrained to deny defendant's motion. The Court directs plaintiff's attention to the following link to the D.C. Superior Court Civil Actions Branch Case Management Plan, which contains a list of free legal services for self-represented parties: <http://www.dccourts.gov/internet/documents/CivilDivisionCaseManagementPlan-CivilActionsBranchFinalJune2016.pdf>.

Accordingly, it is this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2017, hereby

**ORDERED** that plaintiff's motion requesting the appointment of counsel is DENIED.

**SO ORDERED.**

*Florence Pan*

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Judge Florence Y. Pan  
Superior Court of the District of Columbia

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