

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,  
IN AND FOR ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

**STATE OF FLORIDA**

**CASE No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**VS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DEFENDANT**

**PETITION TO ENTER PLEA AND WAIVER OF RIGHT TO COUNSEL**

I have appeared before a Judge in the Alachua County Court and have been advised of the charge(s) against me. I do  (do not ) read, write, and speak the English language.

**I understand that I have the following rights:**

1. To have my plea recorded by an official court reporter or electronic device and offer an explanation of extenuating or mitigating circumstances before being sentenced.
2. To have an attorney represent me and if I cannot afford to hire a lawyer, to have a court appointed attorney.
3. To remain silent and no to incriminate myself on the charge(s) against me. My silence cannot be considered by the judge or jury.
4. To have a trial before a judge or before a jury and at trial, to confront and question witnesses against me.
5. To have my case brought before a judge or before a jury and at trial, to confront and question witnesses against me.
6. To be presumed innocent and to require the State to prove my guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.
7. To subpoena witnesses and to testify in my own behalf, if I choose, and at trial to present any defenses I might have to the charge(s).
8. To appeal the judgment and sentence within thirty (30) days and if indigent, to have a court appointed attorney for this appeal without cost to me.

**I understand that I waive all of the above rights by entering a plea of guilty or no contest except my right to appeal collateral matters and the right to offer an explanation before being sentenced.**

**WAIVER OF COUNSEL**

1. I understand that I have a right to a lawyer and if I cannot afford to hire my own lawyer, one will be appointed to represent me right now.
2. I understand that a fee may be assessed for the services of my appointed lawyer.
3. I understand that a lawyer may advise me as to whether entering a plea is in my best interest and has the experience to

work with the State, plea bargain or inform me of the advantages and disadvantages of what I might say in court.

4. I understand that the court will not assist or advise or give me special treatment because I am representing myself.
5. I understand the nature of the charge(s) against me and that the charge(s) is/are:  
 second degree misdemeanor  
 first degree misdemeanor  
 specified criminal traffic offense with the required minimum and maximum penalties
6. I understand the maximum sentence that can be imposed for a first degree misdemeanor is a \$1000.00 fine and up to one year in jail and for a second degree misdemeanor is a \$500.00 fine and up to 60 days in jail. Therefore, I could be jailed on the charge(s) I am facing today.
7. I understand I may be placed on probation and/or required to pay court cost, do community service, pay a fine, or pay restitution and that violations of any of these requirements can subject me to being jailed for up to the maximum sentence that can be imposed.
8. I understand that as a result of this plea, I may have a permanent criminal record and may be subjected to deportation if I am not a citizen of the United States.
9. I understand the difference between a plea of guilty, no contest, and not guilty, as well as the effect of each plea.
10. I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old and have completed \_\_\_\_\_ years of school.
11. I (do ) (do not ) give up my right to an attorney. I understand this waiver of counsel may not be considered a waiver for any later proceedings.
12. I enter my plea after careful consideration. No promises, threats, or representations (other than by this court) have been made to me. I am not under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medicine at this time. I am not physically or mentally ill or impaired. I understand if I am presently on probation, entry of this plea may violate that probation. I have listened to and understand the court's instructions.

**I, hereby, petition the court to enter a plea of:**

Not guilty                       Guilty                       No Contest

\_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney

The above named defendant appeared before me on \_\_\_\_\_. I find that the defendant is alert, competent, and understands all of the above, and has knowingly and intelligently waived counsel. I also find that the facts which the State is prepared to prove are sufficient to sustain the plea.

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Court Judge