

NO. 141-370402-25

FILED
 TARRANT COUNTY
 12/4/2025 12:21 PM
 THOMAS A. WILDER
 DISTRICT CLERK

**WEINSTEIN MANAGEMENT CO.,
 INC. AND WMCI DALLAS X, LLC,
 Plaintiffs and Counter-Defendants,** § **IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF**
v. § **TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS**
KATHRYN COPELAND, § **141ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT**
Defendant and Counter-Plaintiff. §

**ORDER APPOINTING COUNSEL PURSUANT TO
 TEX. PROP. CODE § 301.152 AND 42 U.S.C. § 3613(b)**

On this day, the Court considered Defendant Kathryn Copeland's request for appointment of counsel in connection with the Fair Housing Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, and Texas Fair Housing Act issues raised in this matter. The Court finds that the statutory prerequisites for appointment have been met.

Findings

1. Defendant alleges discriminatory housing practices, failures to accommodate disability, and related retaliation under the **Texas Fair Housing Act (Texas Property Code Chapter 301)** and the **federal Fair Housing Act**, including rights protected by **42 U.S.C. §§ 3604, 3613, and 3617**.

2. **Texas Property Code § 301.152** expressly provides:

“On application by a person alleging a discriminatory housing practice or by a person against whom a discriminatory housing practice is alleged, the court may appoint an attorney for the person.”

3. Texas law is modeled on and cross-references **42 U.S.C. § 3613(b)**, which likewise authorizes courts to appoint counsel in Fair Housing Act proceedings to ensure meaningful access to the enforcement of federal rights.

4. The legal and factual issues in this case involve substantive civil-rights questions, including alleged failures to provide reasonable accommodations, retaliation following protected activity, and interference with housing rights. These matters require specialized civil-rights expertise for proper adjudication.
 5. The Court finds that appointment of counsel will assist both the Defendant and the Court by ensuring that the federal and state civil-rights issues are fully and accurately presented and that the evidentiary record is appropriately developed.
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Order

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Professor Sara Michelle Zampierin, Clinical Associate Professor of Law and Director of the Civil Rights Clinic at Texas A&M University School of Law, is hereby appointed as counsel for Defendant Kathryn Copeland pursuant to Texas Property Code § 301.152 and 42 U.S.C. § 3613(b).
2. This appointment is for the limited purpose of representing Defendant with respect to issues arising under the Fair Housing Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Texas Fair Housing Act, and related civil-rights questions, including:
 - a. Reviewing and analyzing the factual and procedural history;
 - b. Advising the Court on applicable federal and state civil-rights obligations;
 - c. Preparing appropriate motions, briefs, or responses; and
 - d. Appearing at hearings on matters involving these issues.

3. The Civil Rights Clinic may appear through Professor Zampierin and/or supervised student attorneys as permitted by Texas law.
 4. The Clinic shall notify the Court within **10 days** of receiving this Order whether it accepts the appointment or requires a brief extension to evaluate the referral.
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SIGNED on _____, 2025.

JUDGE PRESIDING
141st Judicial District Court, Tarrant County, Texas

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