



USFLMD PRO SE HANDBOOK
SECTION III: THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE REPRESENTING YOURSELF
(ALL-IN-ONE DOCUMENT)

US DISTRICT COURT, FLORIDA, MIDDLE DISTRICT
{LAST UPDATE: 2/10/2022}

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PRO SE HANDBOOK
FROM THE US DISTRICT COURT, FLORIDA, MIDDLE DISTRICT

SECTION III THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE REPRESENTING YOURSELF

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3.00 | THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE REPRESENTING YOURSELF

Representing yourself carries responsibility and risk. Consider them carefully. Here are some:

- If you miss a deadline, submit a document that is false, make a false statement, disregard a court order, refuse to follow a court rule, or ask for something to which you know you are not entitled, you may lose on that ground alone and the court may impose a fine against you or hold you in contempt.
- Lying in a court document is perjury and is a crime punishable by imprisonment.
- Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure prohibits anyone from bringing a claim that is clearly frivolous or meant only to harass someone. If the court determines that you have brought a claim for an improper or unnecessary purpose, the court may impose a sanction against you, including ordering you to pay the other side's attorney's fee.
- If you are not a licensed lawyer, you may represent only yourself. Representing anyone but yourself is illegal.
- If you lose your action, you likely will have to pay some costs that the winning party incurred during the lawsuit. Costs can be expensive.



APPENDIX



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ORIGINAL SOURCE

<u>#</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Link</u>
1	Original Source	https://FLMD.USCourts.gov

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Congratulations! You're now ***booked up*** on Section III of USFLMD's Pro Se Handbook!

