



Tip Sheet: Can My Company Appear Pro Se?

Q: Can I represent my company in federal court pro se?

- You may represent yourself in federal court *pro se*, without an attorney, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1654.

A: You cannot represent your company *pro se* unless your company is a **Sole Proprietorship**.

- A sole proprietorship **can** appear pro se as either a plaintiff or a defendant because it is not considered a separate legal entity from you, the owner.
- A sole proprietorship is a type of business entity that has no separate legal existence from its owner. It has only one owner, and this owner does business in his or her own name.

You cannot represent your Corporation.	<u>No.</u> A corporation cannot appear pro se in federal court. You must retain a lawyer to represent your corporation.	
You cannot represent your LLC.	<u>No.</u> An LLC cannot appear pro se in federal court (even if the LLC has only one member). You must retain a lawyer to represent your LLC.	
You cannot represent your Partnership or LLP.	<u>No.</u> A partnership cannot appear pro se in a lawsuit. You must retain a lawyer to represent your partnership or LLP.	

This Tip Sheet provides general information to pro se litigants in Colorado and is current as of June 18, 2018. If you have any questions about your specific claims or case, or for further help, please call the Federal Pro Se Clinic at (303) 380-8786.