

The document below is hereby signed.

Dated: November 21, 2012.



*S. Martin Teel Jr.*

**S. Martin Teel, Jr.  
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge**

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In re	)	
	)	
SCOTT ALLAN BENNETT,	)	Case No. 12-00755
	)	(Chapter 7)
Debtor.	)	Not for Publication in
	)	West's Bankruptcy Reporter

MEMORANDUM DECISION AND ORDER  
DENYING REQUEST FOR COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY

The debtor has asked the court to assign the debtor a court-appointed attorney to help him finalize his bankruptcy forms. First, the court notes that the debtor does not have a constitutional right to the appointment of counsel in this bankruptcy case. As observed in *In re Fitzgerald*,

Generally, a civil litigant has no constitutional right to the appointment of counsel. An indigent has a right to appointed counsel only when, if he loses, he may be deprived of his physical liberty. Here, debtor is presently incarcerated, and debtor's freedom or physical liberty is not affected by these bankruptcy proceedings. There is no constitutional right to obtain a discharge in bankruptcy, and bankruptcy is not a fundamental right. Thus, debtor clearly has no constitutional right to court-appointed counsel.

167 B.R. 689, 691 (Bankr. N.D. GA. 1994) (internal citations omitted).

