I have read the proposed rule change and many of the comments on your website. It upsets me that in trying to promote the rights of a group of individuals, you propose to sacrifice the rights of those engaged in a vocation that the ABA professes to champion. The proposed rule is a direct affront on the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and my First Amendment rights. I wholeheartedly agree with the Fifty-Two ABA Member Attorneys that the choice of who I represent should be left to my wise discretion. My personal convictions and religious affiliations guide me in my daily life, as well as, my over twenty-five years of the practice of law.

William D. Ballard