Dear Honorable Vidge Kenneth Brown, Lapologize for having To request your help in this matter. I don't feel my afterney, Mr Vames Baiamonte, is looking out for my best intrasts. Because of This I am seeking Now course and I have asked Mr. Baiamonto To remove himself From my defense.

I am humbly requesting that you may grant a continuance to my trial untill I can either be appointed a Now attorney from The public defender's office or my family can find The means To rotain a private attorney To represent me. I hope and pray you will look favorably upon my request and I Thank you dooply for your consideration. Sincerally Michael Armendariz Valencia County Cause No CR-02-470 Milffrmanhi 5 07-01-03

Michael Armendariz July 11, 2003 Page Two

It is true that you are charged with a very serious offense. All of my clients receive the best defense and advice I can provide regardless of the respective seriousness of their alleged crimes. I am, again, uncertain as to what more you think needs to be done or could have been done in your defense.

Michael, you are going to stand trial for First Degree Murder on August 4, 2003. I realize that that is a sobering fact, but changing lawyers in the 11<sup>th</sup> hour will not change the facts of the case. I suspect that you are getting 'cold feet' as your trial approaches. I have seen this occur on a great number of cases. Since we have pretty much concluded that you would not do well on the witness stand, the best thing you can do now is let me do my job.

Sincerely,

Jim Baiamonte

JB:clm

## JIM BAIAMONTE

LAWYER

900 Lomas BLvd. NW-Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102 505/246-8166 Fax 505/848-8566

July 11, 2003

Michael Armendariz c/o Valencia County Detention Facility 436 Courthouse Road Los Lunas, NM 87031

Re: Your letters of July 3, 2003 to Judge Brown and myself

Mr. Armendariz:

I am in receipt of your letter that you wrote to Judge Brown expressing your displeasure with my representation. Judge Brown forwarded a copy of it to me.

A conference was held July 9 between the judge, assistant district attorney and myself regarding the contents of that letter. The district attorney's office was never provided a copy of the letter nor informed of its specific contents. Judge Brown felt that you have not articulated sufficient grounds as to why you do not want me to represent you. A vague detail such as I am not looking out for your best interests is not sufficient.

I am in the process of having my investigator conduct the witness interviews in the investigation of your case. I need a family member to bring me two sets of clothing suitable for court. That means a nice, long sleeved shirt with a neck and necktie, nice dress slacks and nice shoes.

I am also in receipt of your letter dated July 3, 2003 asking me to step aside as your attorney. You reference "several instances" but do not elaborate further as to why you feel I can not represent you. It is impossible for me to address such a vague remark.