

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

OUATI K. ALI,

Petitioner,

v.

MICHAEL BAENEN,

Respondent.

ORDER

13-cv-132-bbc

In connection with his petition for a writ of habeas corpus, petitioner Ouati K. Ali has filed a motion for appointment of counsel and for reassignment of case 12-v-841-bbc “to the same judge.” Dkt. #2. The motion for reassignment will be denied as moot because both this case and case 12-cv-841-bbc are assigned to me. As for the motion for appointment of counsel in this case, it is too early to know whether this is a case in which counsel is necessary to enable petitioner to present his claims. It is not even clear yet which claims petitioner will be pursuing.

Recruitment of counsel is appropriate in those relatively few cases in which it appears from the record that the legal and factual difficulty of the case exceeds the petitioner’s demonstrated ability to prosecute it. Pruitt v. Mote, 503 F.3d 647, 654, 655 (7th Cir. 2007). This case has not progressed sufficiently to allow me to determine the complexity of the issues and petitioner’s competence to prosecute his case. Pruitt, 503 F.3d at 654-55.

Petitioner's concerns about his legal skill are shared by all persons who file cases without the assistance of a lawyer. The court will advise him what steps he needs to take as his petition progresses.

At this point, petitioner's motion for appointment of counsel will be denied without prejudice to his renewing the request at a later date.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that petitioner Ouati K. Ali's motion for appointment of counsel, dkt. #2, is DENIED without prejudice and his motion for reassignment of case 12-cr-841-bbc, dkt. #2, is DENIED as moot.

Entered this 1st day of May, 2013.

BY THE COURT:
/s/
BARBARA B. CRABB
District Judge