

**MINUTES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

United States v. Lipari, et al.

THE HONORABLE JOHN W. SEDWICK

3:10-cv-08142 JWS

PROCEEDINGS:

ORDER FROM CHAMBERS

September 10, 2010

One of the defendants in this case is a limited liability company called Exeter Trinity Properties LLC. No lawyer has appeared on behalf of that defendant. Instead, an individual named Elmer P. Vild is attempting to represent it. Mr. Vild is not known to be a lawyer.

In *Rowland v. California Men's Colony*, the Supreme Court noted that “[i]t has been the law for the better part of two centuries . . . that a corporation may appear in the federal courts only through licensed counsel.” 506 U.S. 194, 201-02 (1993) (citations omitted). The Court also observed that “the rationale for that rule applies equally to *all* artificial entities.” *Id.* at 202 (emphasis added). To further emphasize the rule, the Court criticized two lower-court decisions carving out exceptions for a partner appearing on behalf of a partnership and a sole shareholder appearing on behalf of a closely held corporation. *Id.* at 202 n.5.

Because Mr. Vild cannot represent Exeter Trinity Properties LLC, the motions filed by Mr. Vild at dockets 5, 6, and 8 are **DENIED without prejudice**, and the demand for jury trial at docket 7 is **STRICKEN without prejudice**.
