PRO SE DEFENDANT; DISCHARGE OF COUNSEL

I. PRO SE DEFENDANT

The defendant has decided to represent himself (herself) in this trial, and not to use a lawyer. He (she) has a perfect right to do that. His (her) decision has no bearing on whether he (she) is guilty or not guilty, and it should have no effect on your consideration of the case.

II. DISCHARGE OF COUNSEL

Even though the defendant was at first represented by a lawyer, he (she) has decided to continue this trial representing himself (herself), and not use the services of a lawyer. He (she) has a perfect right to do that. His (her) decision has no bearing on whether he (she) is guilty or not guilty, and it should have no effect on your consideration of the case.

The model instructions are adapted from Federal Judicial Center, *Pattern Criminal Jury Instructions* § 6 (1983 ed.)