**
Sample Social Media Language to Accompany CAFA Graphics**

For any questions regarding the graphics and how to utilize the materials on social media platforms, please contact Jessie Diamond, jdiamond@nacdl.org or Kate Holden, kholden@nacdl.org.

For any questions about NACDL’s legislative advocacy, please contact Monica Reid, mreid@nacdl.org.

Make sure to tag NACDL on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NACDL/), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/NACDL), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/nacdl/) when sharing!

**Language for Graphic 1:** Counsel at first appearance (CAFA) refers to the legal representation provided to individuals when they first appear in court. Here’s why it matters. #VACAFA

Act now: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 2:** Currently, Virginia law doesn’t require that a person accused of a crime have legal representation when they first appear in court. This needs to change. #VACAFA

Act now: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 3:** The first court appearance gives those in custody an opportunity for pretrial release, but research shows this is much harder to obtain without the help of an attorney. #VACAFA

Tell your legislators to support SB 475: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 4:** When an individual accused of a crime has access to an attorney at their first court appearance, they are more likely to be released before trial. #VACAFA

Tell your legislators to pass SB 475 now: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 5:** Detaining an individual ahead of trial impacts the outcome of their case. Access to an attorney at first appearance can help more eligible people gain release sooner. #VACAFA

Take action now: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 6:** Individuals in the criminal legal system who are released promptly are less likely to miss future court dates or be arrested for new criminal charges. #VACAFA

Take action: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 7:** Ensuring counsel at every accused person’s first court appearance is a critical step in addressing racial disparities in the pretrial system. #VACAFA

Take action: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 8:** The events of a first court appearance can have long-term consequences, especially relating to pretrial release. Virginians need attorneys in the room while life-changing decisions are made. #VACAFA

Take action: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 9:** When the accused lack access to an attorney at their first court appearance, their risk of detention increases, and the costs are passed on to Virginians. #VACAFA

Tell your legislators to pass SB 475: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>

**Language for Graphic 10:** Without an attorney at first court appearance to secure pretrial release, the families of individuals accused of crimes face devastating consequences. #VACAFA

Take action: <https://www.votervoice.net/NACDL/campaigns/90640/respond>