

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

GENERAL ORDER 11-0027

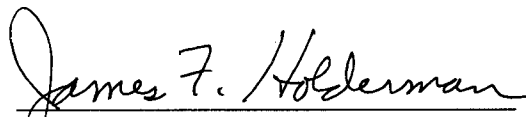
It appearing that the Court has elected to participate in the Pilot Project for Patent Cases established pursuant to Pub L. No. 111-349, 124 Stat. 3674.

Therefore, effective September 19, 2011, the Court's participation in the Patent Pilot Project will commence and be subject to the procedures that follow below.

- 1) Any district judge who has been a member of the Court for at least six months is eligible to serve as a Pilot Project Judge.
- 2) Any eligible district judge wishing to volunteer to act as a Pilot Project Judge shall so notify the Chief Judge.
- 3) The Clerk of Court shall establish a separate assignment deck for use in the reassignment of cases transferred to the Executive Committee for reassignment to a Pilot Project Judge. The name of each Pilot Project Judge shall appear in this deck an equal number of times. Reassignments made using this deck shall be made by lot.
- 4) A district judge, who is not a Pilot Project Judge, to whom a new patent case other than a "false marking" case under 35 U.S.C. § 292 is assigned may, within thirty (30) days of the filing of that case, transfer it to the Executive Committee for reassignment by lot to one of the Pilot Project Judges. A patent case that is a re-filing of a previously dismissed case is not eligible for transfer to the Pilot Project.
- 5) Equalization credit in the assignment category in which the patent case was initially assigned shall be provided to both the Pilot Project Judge and the district judge from whom the case was reassigned.

ENTER:

FOR THE COURT



Chief Judge

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 7th day of September, 2011.