

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

GENERAL ORDER 14-0026

It appearing that on September 7, 2011, General Order 11-0027 was entered, establishing a Pilot Program for Patent Cases pursuant to Pub L. No. 111-349, 124 Stat. 3674; and


It further appearing that Section 5 of that General Order is amended to enable a judge receiving a case under the Program to waive equalization; therefore

the Court's participation in the Pilot Program for Patent Cases is subject to the procedures that follow below.

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

ENTER:

FOR THE COURT


Acting Chief Judge

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 5th day of December, 2014