



United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois  
219 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

## Northern District of Illinois Judges Propose Local Patent Rules

CHICAGO - MARCH 23, 2009 — The judges of the Northern District of Illinois have issued for public comment proposed local rules to guide the pretrial procedures in patent cases. The public comment period will run for sixty days until Friday, May 22, 2009. Following the public comment period, the judges will consider the proposed new local patent rules in light of the comments received.

The proposed local patent rules may be viewed on the court's Local Rules web page at <http://www.ilnd.uscourts.gov/home/NoticeofProposals.aspx> or copies of the proposed rules may be obtained at the following locations:

Office of the Clerk	or	Office of the Clerk
U.S. District Court		U.S. District Court
219 South Dearborn Street		211 South Court Street
20th Floor Assignment Desk		2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60604		Rockford, IL 61101

Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed local patent rules may do so by submitting written comments via e-mail to Michael W. Dobbins at [ilnd\\_localrules\\_comments@ilnd.uscourts.gov](mailto:ilnd_localrules_comments@ilnd.uscourts.gov) or by submitting written comments to Michael W. Dobbins, Clerk of Court, 219 South Dearborn Street, Room 2050, Chicago, IL 60604. Comments must be received no later than the close of business on Friday, May 22, 2009.

The proposed local patent rules were drafted by a committee of experienced lawyers, who are affiliated with the Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago (IPLAC), and four district judges: Judge Matthew Kennelly, who chaired the drafting committee; Judge James Zagel; Judge Amy St. Eve; and Chief Judge James Holderman.

The seven lawyers of the drafting committee were: Allan Sternstein of Dykema Gossett; Bradford Lyerla of Marshall, Gerstein & Borun; Edward Manzo of Cook Alex; Dean Monco of Wood Phillips; Michael Padden of Howrey; Marshall Seeder of Reed Smith; and Paul Vickrey of Niro, Scarvone, Haller & Niro.

Chief Judge Holderman stated:

We judges are grateful for the time and the detailed analysis the lawyers on the drafting committee devoted to this endeavor. It was truly a collaborative effort among the lawyers and judges to produce the proposed local patent rules. Although individual judges presiding over individual patent cases may make adjustments in the schedule of pretrial proceedings set out in the proposed local patent rules, the rules provide a uniform structure of time-frames that the drafters believe are reasonable. We look forward to receiving the comments of patent practitioners and others.