

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

GENERAL ORDER 26-0005

The full Court met in executive session on November 25, 2025 and approved proposed amendments to Local Rule 40.3.1 – Assignments Involving Bankruptcy. The proposed amendments were published with comments due on February 2, 2026. Neither the Rules Advisory Committee nor the Public submitted comments.

The Rules Committee considered the proposed amendments at its meeting on February 24, 2026. The Rules Committee approved the amendments and recommended that the full Court adopt Local Rule 40.3.4 as proposed.

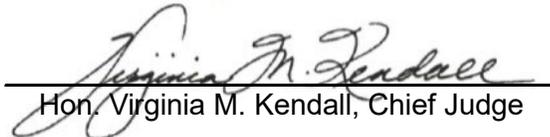
The full Court considered the recommendation of the Rules Committee at its meeting on Thursday, February 26, 2026, and agreed to adopt Local Rule 40.3.1 as proposed.

By direction of the full Court,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Local Rule 40.3.1 be implemented as published by the Rules Committee as attached (additions shown thus, deletions shown ~~thus~~). The Rule is effective immediately, pending the approval of the Seventh Circuit Judicial Council.

ENTER:

FOR THE COURT


Hon. Virginia M. Kendall, Chief Judge

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 27th day of February 2026

LR 40.3.1 Assignments Involving Bankruptcy

(a) Referral to Bankruptcy Judges. Pursuant to [28 U.S.C. §157\(a\)](#), all cases under Title [11 U.S.C.](#) and all proceedings arising under Title [11 U.S.C.](#) or arising in or related to any cases under Title [11 U.S.C.](#) are referred to the bankruptcy judges of this District.

(b) Assignment by Lot. Except as provided by sections (c) and (d), each of the following items shall be assigned by lot to a district judge:

(1) motions pursuant to [28 U.S.C. §157\(d\)](#) (including a recommendation by a bankruptcy judge) for the withdrawal of the reference of a bankruptcy (“B”) case, or of a contested matter or adversary (“A”) proceeding within a bankruptcy case;

(2) objections to proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law of a bankruptcy judge filed pursuant to [28 U.S.C. §157\(a\)\(1\)](#);

(3) appeals pursuant to [28 U.S.C. §158\(a\)\(1\)](#);

(4) motions for leave to appeal pursuant to [28 U.S.C. §158\(a\)\(3\)](#); and

(5) applications for a writ of mandamus or a similar writ in connection with a bankruptcy case, contested matter, or adversary proceeding.

All such assignments shall be made using the Civil II assignment category, except that objections to proposed findings and conclusions shall be assigned using the Civil III assignment category. The clerk is directed to assign a case so designated to the judge on whose calendar the previously filed case was assigned.

(c) Direct Assignment for Rehearing. Whenever there is activity in bankruptcy court following a district judge’s consideration of any of the items described in section (b), any subsequent proceedings in the district court involving that item shall be assigned to the district judge who considered the item initially.

(d) Relatedness. The provisions of [LR 40.4](#) are applicable to the items described in section (b).

(e) Designation Sheet. The person filing any of the items described in paragraph (b) shall complete the designation sheet required by [LR 3.1](#) and include on the sheet a designation of any such item, previously heard by the district court, that the filer believes would require direct assignment of the filing pursuant to this rule.

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Amended February 26, 2026