

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND**

IN RE: GENERAL ORDERS

26-MC-9004

**GENERAL ORDER 2026-01: SUSPENSION OF LR GEN 201(a) AS TO ATTORNEYS
APPEARING IN CIVIL DETAINEE HABEAS MATTERS**

Pursuant to LR Gen 101(c), the Court finds that exceptional circumstances exist due to the increase in the number of Petitions for Writ of Habeas Corpus filed in the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island by civil detainees challenging the lawfulness of their detention. Due to this, the Court hereby suspends the requirements for admission under LR Gen 201(a) for attorneys seeking to represent those petitioners on a *pro bono* basis. An attorney who is not a member of the bar of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island may appear and practice, without local counsel, in civil detainee habeas matters subject to the following conditions:

1. Any attorney appearing pursuant to this order will be subject to the disciplinary jurisdiction of this Court as provided in LR Gen 208 through LR Gen 216.
2. Any attorney appearing pursuant to this order will be bound by the Local Rules of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island.
3. Any attorney appearing pursuant to this order must be a member in good standing of the bar of at least one state, territory, or the District of Columbia and/or one federal district court and must not be currently suspended or disbarred in any jurisdiction.
4. This order applies only to civil habeas corpus petitions undertaken without charge on behalf of detained persons challenging the lawfulness of their detention and does not extend to any other case type.
5. Any attorney appearing pursuant to this order is eligible to make filings electronically pursuant to LR Gen 304 and must request filing privileges in this Court via PACER.
6. Any attorney appearing pursuant to this order will disclose in the signature block of any filing that they are eligible to appear pursuant to this order.
7. The Court may withdraw the permission of any attorney to appear and practice pursuant to this order at any time.

The suspension of LR Gen 201(a) as outlined above will remain in effect for one year from the date of this order, and the Court may elect to extend this order if the exceptional circumstances outlined above continue to exist.

By the Court:

Date: April 13, 2026

/s/ John J. McConnell, Jr. Chief Judge