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

#### IN RE: LOCAL RULES COMMITTEE

Misc. 06-102

#### ORDER

Pursuant to L.R. Gen 113 and by agreement of the Judges of this Court, effective July 1, 2012, Michael Daly, Donald Migliori, Amy Parker, Matthew Oliverio, and Stanley Pupecki are hereby appointed to the Local Rules Review Committee (LRRC); Judith Crowell and Matthew H. Parker are reappointed to the LRRC; and Olin Thompson is appointed to serve the remainder of the term of Mary McElroy, which expires on June 30, 2014. Stacey Nakasian and Steven Richard are hereby appointed as Co-Chairs of the LRRC effective July 1, 2012.

Therefore, the Local Rules Review Committee shall be composed of the following individuals, whose terms expire on the dates indicated next to their respective names.

#### **Term Expires** Name June 30, 2013 C. Russell Bengtson, Esq. June 30, 2013 Terrence P. Donnelly, AUSA June 30, 2013 Raymond A. Marcaccio, Esq. June 30, 2013 Stacey P. Nakasian, Esq. Steven M. Richard, Esq. June 30, 2013 June 30, 2013 Raymond M. Ripple, Esq. CharCretia V. DiBartolo, Esq. June 30, 2014 June 30, 2014 Robert D. Fine, Esq. June 30, 2014 Olin Thompson, Esq. June 30, 2014 Neal J. McNamara, Esq. June 30, 2014 Justin T. Shay, Esq. June 30, 2014 George J. West, Esq. June 30, 2015 Judith Crowell, Esq. June 30, 2015 Michael Daly, Esq. June 30, 2015 Donald Migliori, Esq. June 30, 2015 Amy Parker, Esq. June 30, 2015 Matthew H. Parker, Esq. June 30, 2015 Matthew Oliverio, Esq. Stanley Pupecki, Esq. June 30, 2015

Michael Simoncelli, ex officio reporter

n/a

So Ordered:

Mary M. Lisi Mary M. Lisi Chief Judge Date: June 22, 2012

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

## LOCAL RULES REVIEW COMMITTEE MARCH 13, 2013

The Local Rules Review Committee ("LRRC") met on March 13, 2013, at 4:00 PM in the Jury Assembly Room of the United States Courthouse. Stacey Nakasian and Steven Richard co-chaired the meeting. The following LRRC members were present: C. Russell Bengston, CharCretia DiBartolo, Michael Daly, Terrence Donnelly, Robert Fine, Matthew Oliverio, Amy Parker, Matthew Parker, Stanley Pupecki, Ray Ripple, Justin Shay, and George West. The following Court personnel were present: David DiMarzio, Frank Perry, and Michael Simoncelli (LRRC Reporter). Co-chair Stacey Nakasian called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Chief Judge Lisi kicked off the meeting by thanking the members of the LRRC for their service to the Court. She noted that in comparison to the 2011-12 cycle, the LRRC's workload as a whole should be lighter than the 2011-12 cycle as the Court proposed a smaller number of suggested amendments for the 2012-2013 review cycle. After her opening remarks, Chief Judge Lisi excused herself from the meeting to let the LRRC begin its discussion.

Co-chair Stacey Nakasian thanked Chief Judge Lisi for her opening remarks. Ms. Nakasian next outlined the process by which suggested amendments to the local rules are considered by the LRRC. She explained that the bulk of the LRRC's work is performed by the LRRC's subcommittees. Any suggestions from the Court, Bar, or public are forwarded to the relevant subcommittee for review, which in turn reports its recommendations to the full LRRC. The full LRRC then votes to reject or endorse the subcommittee's recommendation, and reports its decision in a final report to the Court, which is due by June 30, 2013.

Ms. Nakasian next discussed the subcommittee assignments for the 2012-2013 cycle. She started by mentioning that since the work of the Electronic Case Filing (ECF) subcommittee had been relatively light over the last two cycles, the co-chairs decided to fold that subcommittee into the General Rules Subcommittee. She added that the three subcommittee chairs for the 2012-2013 cycle are: George West (Criminal Rules), Justin Shay (General Rules), and C. Russell Bengston (Civil Rules).

Following the discussion of the suggestion review process and the subcommittee structure, Ms. Nakasian turned to the suggested amendments submitted by the Court to the LRRC, and the two holdovers suggestions from 2011-12. She mentioned that the Court forwarded 11 suggested amendments, which included both technical and substantive changes, and two holdovers from the previous cycle related to ghostwriting of pleadings by attorneys on behalf of *pro se* filers and the discovery of electronically stored information (ESI). Redlined

versions of the suggested amendments were circulated at today's meeting. She also pointed out that LRRC members may propose suggestions in addition to the Court suggestions.

In regard to the ESI discovery suggestion from the 2011-12 cycle, co-chair Steven Richard provided the LRRC with additional information. He reminded members that an *ad hoc* subcommittee was created during the 2011-12 review cycle to study the ESI issue, and that the subcommittee included Mr. Richard, Jeffrey Techentin, Byron McMasters, and Ranen Schechner. Mr. Richard explained that the *ad hoc* subcommittee met during the fall, and put together a memorandum outlining their discussions. Ms. Nakasian added that the final ESI proposal may not fit within the confines of the Local Rules, and that it may be something that the LRRC forwards to the Court to stand outside of the Local Rules. She also added the membership on the *ad hoc* subcommittee is not closed, and if other LRRC members are interested in participating in the process, they should contact Mr. Richard.

David DiMarzio briefly explained the process by which the Court approves and forwards suggested amendments. He explained that all of the suggested amendments sent to the LRRC for the 2012-13 review cycle have been reviewed and endorsed by the District Judges. He also added that the Court may decide to forward additional amendments to the LRRC this cycle—including one proposed change related to the electronic filing of complaints—but that these suggested amendments are still being drafted, and have not been reviewed by the District Judges.

Ms. Nakasian explained that the proposed amendments and holdovers will be forwarded to the respective subcommittees after the meeting. She asked the subcommittee chairs to organize meetings to discuss these proposals during April, and to submit reports to the co-chairs in advance of the LRRC's May meeting.

Bob Fine asked if suggestions made by LRRC members should be sent directly to the relevant subcommittee, or the LRRC as a whole. Ms. Nakasian and Mr. Richard said that any suggestions from LRRC members should be sent to the full committee, and then the co-chairs would funnel the suggestion to the relevant subcommittee. Mr. Fine then mentioned a proposal to make the electronic service of discovery valid in this District. The co-chairs asked Mr. Fine to put the suggestion in writing and forward it to the co-chairs, and he agreed.

Ms. Nakasian asked Michael Daly—a member of the previous cycle's *ad hoc* subcommittee on admiralty rules—if there have been any issues regarding the new set of local admiralty rules that went into effect on January 15, 2013, and if the LRRC had any additional work in relation to those rules. He reported that there were no issues that he was aware of thus far with the local admiralty rules.

Ms. Nakasian closed the meeting by thanking the members of the Court staff for their assistance to the LRRC.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

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

# LOCAL RULES REVIEW COMMITTEE MAY 23, 2013

The Local Rules Review Committee ("LRRC") met on May 23, 2013, at 12:00 PM in the Jury Assembly Room of the United States Courthouse. Stacey Nakasian and Steven Richard cochaired the meeting. The following LRRC members were present: C. Russell Bengston, CharCretia DiBartolo, Michael Daly, Terrence Donnelly, Robert Fine, Ray Marcaccio, Neal McNamara, Donald Migliori, Matthew Oliverio, Stanley Pupecki, Ray Ripple, Justin Shay, and George West. The following Court personnel were present: David DiMarzio, Frank Perry, and Michael Simoncelli. Co-chair Stacey Nakasian called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM.

Ms. Nakasian thanked the subcommittees for their work in advance of today's meeting, and outlined the process by which the various subcommittee reports would be considered by the LRRC. She turned first to the report submitted by the General Rules Subcommittee. For each proposed amendment, she provided a brief explanation of the change proposed, and asked LRRC members if they had any objection to the amendment:

<u>LR Gen 104</u>: Ms. Nakasian explained the proposed amendment to LR Gen 104(b) was a technical revision to incorporate the statutory reference that authorizes the Clerk of Court to collect fees as prescribed by the Judicial Conference. The General Rules Subcommittee recommended approval as proposed, and the full LRRC approved the change.

<u>LR Gen 105(c)(1)</u>: Ms. Nakasian stated the proposed amendment to LR Gen 105(c) added a new subsection permitting attorneys to make emergency filings outside of regular business hours. She asked David DiMarzio, Clerk of Court, to explain the Court's intent behind the proposal. Mr. DiMarzio explained that the rule would cover any non-ECF filing, and that the Court would add information to its website detailing the procedure for making these filings. Donald Migliori asked if the Court intended to define "emergency" within the rule. Mr. DiMarzio responded that the rule would not, but the Clerk's Office would work with the presiding judicial officers to define "emergency." The General Rules Subcommittee recommended approval as proposed, and the full LRRC approved the change.

<u>LR Gen 109</u>: Justin Shay, chair of the General Rules Subcommittee, explained that the Subcommittee recommended that the whole LRRC discuss the changes to (a) and (d)(1) of the rule, particularly in comparison to District of Massachusetts Local Rule 206. Mr. DiMarzio pointed out that the main difference between the proposed change to LR Gen 109(a) and Rule 206 was the second paragraph of the Massachusetts rule. He further explained that Susan Thurston, the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court, saw no problem with adding this additional

language to LR Gen 109(a) if the LRRC was inclined to add it. Matt Oliveiro added that he thought that the additional language in the Massachusetts rule would be helpful to practitioners. Mr. Shay also pointed out that the Court proposed a technical revision to remove the reference to the "Interim Bankruptcy Rules" in (f). (The reference is out-of-date.)

The LRRC agreed to adopt a revised version of LR Gen 109(a) that incorporated the second paragraph of the District of Massachusetts Rule 206 into the Court's original proposal. The LRRC also approved the changes to (d)(1) and (f).

<u>LR Gen 112</u>: Ms. Nakasian explained that the changes to LR Gen 112 were three minor changes to remove references to dated technology, and to accurately and consistently define the location of the Court throughout the rule. The General Rules Subcommittee recommended approval as proposed, and the full LRRC approved the change as proposed.

LR Gen 206(f): Mr. Shay explained that the General Rules Subcommittee elected to defer recommendation on this issue, and have the whole LRRC discuss the extension of law student counsel status to those awaiting the results of the first bar examination. David DiMarzio explained that this change grew out of a discussion with Professor Andy Horwitz at the Roger Williams University Law School, and that the change would bring the local rule into line with state court practice. Bob Fine suggested a revision to the original language, extending law student counsel status to students "awaiting the result of the first bar examination after the student's graduation." The full LRRC approved this change to LR Gen 206 (f) as recommended by Mr. Fine. Ms. Nakasian added that the Court recommended a small change to the disciplinary portion of the rule (206(f)(5)), and the full LRRC approved this change as proposed.

<u>LR Gen 305(b)</u>: Ms. Nakasian explained that the proposed amendment to LR Gen 305(b) updates the language in the rule from "ECF transmission facilities" to "ECF system." The General Rules Subcommittee recommended approval as proposed, and the full LRRC approved the change as proposed.

<u>LR Gen 306(a)</u>: Ms. Nakasian noted that the change was a minor technical change, changing the word "filed" to "entered." The General Rules Subcommittee recommended approval as proposed, and the LRRC approved this change as proposed.

<u>LR Gen 309(c)</u>: Ms. Nakasian stated that the amendment to LR Gen 309 would define the information required to be included in a certificate of service attached to electronically filed documents. Stephen Richard indicated that the General Rules Subcommittee felt that the proposed requirement would be burdensome to counsel, especially in multiparty cases. David DiMarzio explained that the Court originally drafted this proposal after it made revisions to LR Cv 5.1 (for documents filed conventionally), which defined the necessary element of a certificate

of service. The full LRRC voted to leave the rule unchanged in regard to certificates of service for electronically filed documents. (On a certificates of service for documents filed conventionally, see the discussion on LR Cv 5.1 below).

<u>LR Gen 310</u>: Ms. Nakasian explained that the proposed amendment to LR Gen 310 changes the word "filed" to "entered" when referring to actions by the Court. The General Rules Subcommittee recommended approval as proposed, and the full LRRC approved this change as proposed.

<u>LR Gen 313</u>: Ms. Nakasian stated that the proposed amendment to LR Gen 313 was a technical revision to incorporate a reference to the statute that permits the Clerk of Court to collect fees as prescribed by the Judicial Conference. The General Rules Subcommittee recommended approval as proposed, and the full LRRC approved the change as proposed.

LR Gen 109 (continued): Mr. Shay explained that the Court proposed a second round of changes to LR Gen 109 to remedy deficiencies in local procedure regarding the transmission of bankruptcy appeals to the District Court. Frank Perry explained that the Court proposed the changes to (f) to streamline the procedure for transmitting the record on appeal from the Bankruptcy Court to the District Court, and to remove some confusion in the local rule regarding when an appeal was pending at the District Court. Ms. Nakasian expressed concern that the changes to the local rule may be treading into questions about jurisdiction, and other members of the LRRC felt that they could not adequately evaluate this change to the Bankruptcy Court's Attorney Advisory Committee for evaluation.

### Civil Rules

<u>LR Cv 5.1</u>: Michael Daly explained that the Court-proposed changes to LR Cv 5.1 split the rule into two parts. The new (a) is taken from the existing (a)(1), and would apply to summonses only. The new section (b) of the rule would require all non-ECF filings after the complaint—unless a rule provides otherwise—to include a certificate of service, and spells out what is to be included in a certificate of service. Mr. Daly reported that the Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended approval of the changes to (a) as proposed, but made a number of changes to (b).

Specifically, he explained that the Civil Rules Subcommittee added language to emphasize that this rule would only apply to service of documents filed conventionally, and that LR Gen 309 would govern documents filed electronically. Stanley Pupecki questioned whether the 7-day requirement in (a) to show proof of service of a summons was too restrictive, and the full LRRC agreed to change that requirement from 7 days to "within a reasonable time after the receipt of service." David DiMarzio recommended technical changes to some of the language in the

proposed amendments, and that the new section (b)(3) added by the Civil Rules Subcommittee was redundant with (b)(1) of the rule. The LRRC agreed to accept the modifications to the Civil Rules Subcommittee proposals recommended by Mr. Pupecki and Mr. DiMarzio.

<u>LR Cv 55</u>: Mr. Daly explained that the proposed amendment to LR Cv 55 removed an out-ofdate reference to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940. The Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended approval as proposed, and the full LRRC approved this change as proposed.

<u>LR Cv 72</u>: Mr. Daly explained that the Court proposed the change to LR Cv 72 to replace the references to "appeal" with "objection" to bring the rule in line with Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(a). Ms. Nakasian pointed out that the Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended approval of the change as proposed, but that the Criminal Rules Subcommittee—which reviewed an identical change to the companion criminal local rule (LR Cr 57.2)—had reservations about adopting the change. She recommended that the full LRRC hold off on approval of LR Cv 72 until the Committee discussed the changes to LR Cr 57.2 as well.

<u>LR Cv 26.1</u>: Mr. Daly next explained that the Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended approval of a new LR Cv 26.1 that would supply uniform definitions in discovery requests. (The proposed rule mirrors District of Massachusetts Rule 26.5.) Mr. Pupecki and Mr. Richard expressed concern that some of the definitions in the rule were burdensome and overly broad. The full LRRC rejected the proposed rule recommended by the Civil Rules Subcommittee.

<u>LR Cv 26</u>: Mr. Daly and Ray Ripple explained that the Civil Rules Subcommittee proposed the amendment to LR Cv 26 on the basis of a suggestion by Robert Fine to allow for the electronic service of discovery requests. The full LRRC approved the proposed rule as proposed by the Civil Rules Subcommittee.

<u>Ghostwriting:</u> Mr. Daly provided background on the "ghostwriting" suggestion. The suggestion was made during the 2011-2012 local rules review cycle, and was tabled for consideration during the 2012-2013 cycle. He explained that the Rhode Island Superior Court recently issued two decisions on this issue, and that one had been appealed to the Rhode Island Supreme Court. The Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended that the LRRC wait to see how the Rhode Island Supreme Court addresses the issues before taking any action. The full LRRC agreed to table the suggestion.

<u>ESI</u>: Mr. Richard reported that the ESI subcommittee planned to continue their work in the 2013-2014 local rules review cycle.

# Criminal Rules

LR Cr 57.2: George West reported that the Criminal Rules Subcommittee had identified a potential procedural issue with the proposed change to LR Cr 57.2, and recommended that the LRRC table the amendment for additional study before making a recommendation. Specifically, Mr. West pointed out that 18 U.S.C. §3145(a) and (b) require a motion—not an objection (as the rule requires)—to be filed in response to a Magistrate Judge's ruling on a bail issue. Mr. West felt that there may be similar instances where the procedure set out in a particular statute may also be in conflict with this proposed change to LR Cr 57.2. David DiMarzio reported that the Clerk's Office had contacted the Administrative Office's Magistrate Judges' Division regarding this issue in advance of the meeting, and that they did not see a problem with the change. Mr. DiMarzio suggested that a note be included with the rule that explains the different procedure to be followed in regard to bail issues. Ms. Nakasian said that the LRRC would hold off on approving or tabling LR Cr. 57.2.

Ms. Nakasian closed the meeting by thanking the members of the LRRC for their work, and explained that a draft of the report would be circulated to committee members in June for their final approval. She reminded everyone that the final report to the Court was due by June 30.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

# BUSINESS LAW STREAM

July 3, 2013

#### BY HAND

The Honorable Mary M. Lisi Chief Judge of the United States District Court United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island One Exchange Terrace Providence, RI 02903

#### Re: Annual Report of the Local Rules Review Committee

Dear Chief Judge Lisi:

On behalf of the Local Rules Review Committee (LRRC), and co-Chair Steven Richard and myself, I hereby submit the enclosed Annual Report of the Local Rules Review Committee. Pursuant to LR Gen 113(b)(1), this report constitutes the LRRC's Annual Report to the Court on the proposed amendments to the Local Rules. This Annual Report was adopted by vote of the LRRC via email following its May 23, 2013 meeting.

The LRRC began its work by asking for suggested changes to the Local Rules from the Bar and public during January and February 2013, and received two suggested changes from the bar (one of the suggested changes was proposed during the public comment period on the 2011-2012 proposed amendments in December 2012, and the other was received during the suggestion period). The LRRC discussed these suggested changes, along with the Court-proposed amendments and any holdovers from the previous local rules review cycle, at its March 13, 2013 meeting. At that meeting, the LRRC referred the proposals to the various subcommittees for review, and the co-chairs asked that the subcommittees confer during March and April and report to the chairs in advance of the May 23, 2013 meeting.

At the meeting on May 23, the LRRC reviewed the work of the General Rules, Civil Rules, and Criminal Rules Subcommittees. The full LRRC endorsed adoption of thirteen rule changes. Some of the changes endorsed by the LRRC were non-controversial, technical amendments, but the LRRC did recommend substantive changes to LR Gen 105 (After Hours Filings); LR Cv 5.1 (Proof of Service of Summons and Other Documents); and LR Cv 26 (Discovery).

The Honorable Mary M. Lisi July 3, 2013 Page 2

In addition, the LRRC also considered, but ultimately tabled or rejected, additional proposed changes to the rules. The following amendments and proposals were tabled, and will be reconsidered during the next local rules review cycle: part of the proposed amendment to LR Gen 109 (concerning the bankruptcy appeals process); the proposal that the Court adopt a rule requiring *pro se* filers to certify that their pleadings have not been "ghostwritten" by an attorney; and the proposal that the Court adopt a rule setting a default standard for discovery of electronically stored information (ESI). An *ad hoc* committee will continue their discussions regarding a possible ESI rule during the summer and fall of 2013, and will report to the LRRC at its first meeting in 2014. The LRRC also rejected a proposal that the Court adopt a rule for uniform definitions in discovery requests in civil cases. (The proposal was modeled on District of Massachusetts Rule 26.5.)

All of the LRRC's actions on the proposed rule amendments, along with explanations in regard to the modification and/or rejection of certain proposed amendments, are set forth in the attached Annual Report table.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Nakasian

Enclosure

cc: David DiMarzio Frank Perry Michael Simoncelli



United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island

# **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL RULES**

<u>Rule</u> <u>Number</u>	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 104	<ul> <li>LR Gen 104 REMOVAL AND COPYING OF DOCUMENTS         <ul> <li>*****</li> <li>(b) Copies. Upon the request of any person, the Clerk, to the extent reasonable under the circumstances, shall provide copies of any public document filed in a case. The Clerk may charge a reasonable fee for copying consistent with the District Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1914.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	
LR Gen 105	LR Gen 105 ASSIGNMENT OF CASES (c) Emergency Matters. ***** (1) After Hours Filings. Counsel anticipating a possible need for an emergency filing, or emergency action by the court, or both, during a period when the Clerk's Office is ordinarily closed should consult with the Clerk's Office at the earliest opportunity during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 9:00AM - 4:30PM) to make arrangements. A filing user should not expect that a filing made through ECF will be addressed outside normal business hours unless the filer contacts the Clerk's Office in advance to make special arrangements.	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	The LRRC accepted the subcommittee's recommendation, and further modified the proposed change upon the Clerk's Office subsequent recommendation. The language added is indicated by a <u>double-underline</u> and the language removed is indicated by a <u>double</u> strikethrough. (c) Emergency Matters. ***** (1) <u>After Hours Filings.</u> <u>Counsel anticipating a possible need for an</u> emergency filing, or emergency action by the court, or both, during a period when the Clerk's Office is ordinarily closed should consult with the Clerk's Office at the earliest opportunity during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 9:00AM-4:30PM) to make arrangements. A filing user should not expect that a filing made through ECF will be addressed outside normal business hours unless the filer contacts the Clerk's Office in advance to make special arrangements.	

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> <u>Recommendation</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 109	<ul> <li>LR Gen 109 BANKRUPTCY</li> <li>(a) References and Withdrawals of References of Bankruptcy Cases. All cases arising under Title 11 shall be referred automatically to the bankruptcy judge(s) of this District. The reference of any case or proceeding or any portion thereof may be withdrawn at any time by the District Court, sua sponte, or, for good cause shown, upon the motion of any party. A motion for withdrawal of a reference shall not automatically stay any proceeding, but the District Court in its discretion may order a stay.</li> <li>If a bankruptcy judge or district judge determines that entry of a final order or judgment by a bankruptcy judge would not be consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution in a particular proceeding referred under this rule and determined to be a core matter, the bankruptcy judge shall, unless otherwise ordered by the District Court, hear the proceeding and submit proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law to the District Court. The District Court as proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law in the event the District Court concludes that the bankruptcy judge could not have entered a final order or judgment consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee recommended that the full LRRC compare the proposed changes to (a) and (d)(1) with the recently adopted District of Massachusetts Local Rule 206. The General Rules Subcommittee recommended adoption of the remaining proposed changes to the rule.	The LRRC altered the proposed change to (a) in light of the Committee's discussion; accepted the proposed changes to (d) and (f); and tabled the proposed changes to (f)(1), (f)(5), (f)(6), and (f)(7) for reconsideration after consulting with the Bankruptcy Court's Attorney Advisory Committee. The LRRC altered the proposed change to (a) by adding additional language drawn from the Dist. of Mass. LR 206 (Added language is double-underlined. Original proposal language is single- underlined.) ***** If a bankruptcy judge or district judge determines that entry of a final order or judgment by a bankruptcy judge would not be consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution in a particular proceeding referred under this rule and determined to be a core matter, the bankruptcy judge shall, unless otherwise ordered by the District Court, hear the proceeding and submit proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law to the District Court.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	<ul> <li>(d) Reports and Recommendations by Bankruptcy Judge.</li> <li>(1) Time for Objections. Any objection to proposed findings of fact and/or rulings of law by a bankruptcy judge in a non core proceeding shall be filed and served within</li> </ul>	-	The district judge shall make a de novo review upon the record or, after additional evidence, of any portion of the bankruptcy judge's findings of fact or conclusions of law to which specific written objection has been made in accordance with the federal and local rules of bankruptcy procedure. The district judge may accept, reject, or	

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

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<u>Rule</u>	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u>
umber		<u>Recommendation</u>		<u>Action</u>
	14 days after such proposed findings and		modify the proposed findings of fact or	
	rulings are served on the objecting party.		conclusions of law, receive further	
			evidence, or recommit the matter to the	
	****		bankruptcy judge with instructions.	
	(e) Appeals to Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. In		The District Court may treat any order of	
	accordance with 28 U.S.C. §158(b)(6), when all		the Bankruptcy Court as proposed findings	
	parties consent, appeals from any judgment,		of fact and conclusions of law in the event	
	order or decree of a bankruptcy judge which are		the District Court concludes that the	
	referred to in 28 U.S.C. § 158(a) may will be		bankruptcy judge could not have entered a	
	heard and determined by the Bankruptcy		final order or judgment consistent with	
	Appellate Panel for the First Circuit unless a		Article III of the United States	
	party elects to have the appeal heard by the		Constitution.	
	District Court in accordance with Bankruptcy			
	Rule 8001(e)(1).		Next, the LRRC accepted the proposed	
			changes to (d) and the first paragraph of	
	(f) Appeals to District Court. Except as otherwise		(f). (The reference to the "Interim	
	provided in this subsection (f) or elsewhere in		Bankruptcy Rules.")	
	these rules, or unless otherwise ordered by the			
	District Court, appeals or motions for leave to		Lastly, the LRRC recommended that	
	appeal to the District Court from any judgment,		the changes to (f)(1), (f)(5), (f)(6), and	
	order or decree of a bankruptcy judge shall be		(f)(7) be tabled until the next local rules	
	governed by the applicable provisions of Rules		cycle. They further recommended that	
	8001 - 8020 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy		the proposed changes to those	
	Procedure ("Bankruptcy Rules"), and any and		subsections of (f) be forwarded to the	
	all Interim Bankruptcy Rules ("Interim Rules")		Bankruptcy Court's Attorney Advisory	
	which became effective on or after October 17,		Committee for review.	
	2 <del>005.</del>			
	(1) Notice of Appeal Record on Appeal. When a			
	notice of appeal is filed with the bankruptcy			
	clerk, the bankruptcy clerk shall, forthwith,			
	transmit a copy of the notice of appeal to the			
	District Court clerk, together with a copy of the			
	judgment, order or decree that is the subject of			
	the appeal, and the Appeal Cover Sheet. The			
	District Court clerk, thereupon, shall treat the			
	matter administratively as a newly filed case, but			
	in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 8001(f)(2),			
	the matter shall not be deemed "pending" in this			
<u> </u>	<u>are matter shan not be deemed pending in this</u>			<u> </u>

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\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

<u>Rule</u>	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u>
Number		<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>		Action
	Court until the record has been transmitted and docketed.			
	<u>Upon the completion of the record on</u> <u>appeal in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule</u> <u>8007(b), the bankruptcy clerk shall transmit</u> <u>a copy of the following to the District Court</u> <u>clerk:</u>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	(A) Notice of appeal:			
	(B) Judgment, order or decree that is the subject of the appeal;			
	(C) Docket sheet:			
	(D) Appeal cover sheet:			
	(E) Election form requesting the appeal be heard by the district court:			
	(F) Designation(s) of the contents of the record on appeal:			
, I	(G) Statement(s) of issues on appeal; and			
	(H) Any written decision(s) and a transcript of any oral decision(s) by the bankruptcy judge stating the reasons for the judgment, order or decree			
	The District Court clerk, thereupon, shall treat the matter as a newly filed case and docket the appeal in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 8007(b). *****			
	(5) Dismissal of Appeals by Bankruptcy Judge. A bankruptcy judge may dismiss an			

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

Rule	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee	Full Committee Action	Court
Number		<u>Recommendation</u>		<u>Action</u>
	appeal if:			
	(A) the notice of appeal is not filed within the time specified in Bankruptcy Rule 8002;			
	<ul> <li>(B) the appellant has failed to file a designation of the record or a statement of the issues within the time specified in Bankruptcy Rule 8006 or any extension thereof; or</li> </ul>			
	(C) the appellant has failed to comply with paragraph (6)(C) of this subsection.			
	(D)(C) the appellant has failed to pay the prescribed appeal filing fee as required by Bankruptcy Rule 8001(a).			· .
	(6) Record on Appeal. In addition to any other applicable requirements, the Bankruptcy Court clerk shall ensure that the record electronically transmitted to the District Court clerk includes:			
	(A) the judgment, order or decree of the bankruptcy judge that is the subject of the appeal;			
	(B) any written decision(s) and a transcript of any oral decision(s) by the bankruptcy judge stating the reasons for the judgment(s), order(s) and/or decree(s) referred to in			

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

<u>Rule</u> Number		Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> Recommendation	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> Action
		subparagraph (A);	<u>Kecommendation</u>		Action
		(C) the record on appeal;	ė.	· · · ·	
		(D) <u>a statement of the issues on</u> appeal; and,			
		(E) a copy of the docket sheet.			
	(7)	Form of and Schedule for Filing Briefs. Unless otherwise ordered by the District Court or provided in these rules, the form and schedule for filing appellate briefs and memoranda shall be governed by Bankruptcy Rule 8009 and 8010, except that:			
	·	(A) all briefs <del>, and</del> memoranda and appendices thereto shall conform to the applicable requirements of LR Cv 7; and			
		(B) with respect to documents that are conventionally filed, two copies of any brief or memorandum shall be provided to the district judge to whom the appeal or motion for leave to appeal is assigned.			
		Such motion and any related objection(s) and replies shall be governed by the applicable provisions of LR Cv 7.			

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

<u>Rule</u> <u>Number</u>	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee <u>Recommendation</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 112	LR Gen 112 USE OF CELLULAR PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES *****	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	
	(b) Cellular Phones, Laptops, Dictaphones and PDAs and Other-Electronic Devices. Electronic devices, including but not limited to Ccellular or smart phones, laptops, tablets, dictaphones and so- called personal digital assistants ("PDAs"), such as Palm Pilots and Blackberries, may be brought into the Courthouse or that portion of the John O. Pastore Building that is occupied by the Court only by attorneys or those having express authorization and only upon the following conditions:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	(1) <u>Unless the use of the electronic device is</u> <u>expressly authorized by the presiding judicial</u> <u>officer.</u> <u>Bh</u> efore entering any courtroom, chambers or Grand Jury room, anyone carrying an eellular phone, Dictaphone or PDA electronic device shall at the direction of the presiding judicial officer either:			
	<ul> <li>(A) check it with the courtroom clerk or Court security officer at that location turn off the device completely and keep the device turned off during all times in the courtroom, chambers or Grand Jury room; or</li> </ul>			
	(B) turn off the device completely and keep the device turned off during all times in the courtroom, chambers or Grand Jury room check it with the courtroom clerk or Court security officer at that location.			
	(2) Dictaphones may be used only outside the courtroom or chambers.			

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

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Rule	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u>
<u>Number</u>		<b>Recommendation</b>		<u>Action</u>
	(3) Laptops or tablets may be used in a courtroom or chambers only with the express permission of the presiding judicial officer.			
	(4)(2) Upon entering the building, any person carrying an <u>electronic device</u> <del>cellular phone</del> , <del>laptop</del> , dictaphone shall acknowledge and agree that, upon violation of the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) above and/or of any other limitations placed on the use of such instruments, said device may be confiscated.			
JR Gen 206	LR Gen 206 APPEARANCES AND WITHDRAWALS ***** (f) Appearances by Law Students. *****	The General Rules Subcommittee recommended that the proposed changes be discussed by the full LRRC, particularly in regard to the proposed change to (f)(2)(A).	The LRRC modified the proposed language to (f)(2). The language added by the LRRC is shown with a <u>double-</u> <u>underline</u> and language removed by the LRRC is shown with a <del>double</del> strikethrough:	
	<ul> <li>(2) Eligibility to Appear as Law Student Counsel.</li> <li>In order to be eligible to appear as Law Student</li> <li>Counsel, a Senior Law Student must:</li> </ul>		(f) Appearances by Law Students. *****	
· .	<ul> <li>(A) be a student at an A.B.A. accredited law school, or be a recent graduate of such a school, awaiting the first bar examination after the student's graduation or the result of that examination;</li> </ul>		(2) Eligibility to Appear as Law Student Counsel. In order to be eligible to appear as Law Student Counsel, a Senior Law Student must:	
	***** (5) Revocation. A Law Student Counsel acting under this rule shall comply with the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Supreme Court of the State of Rhode Island and the Local Rules of this Court. Failure of an attorney supervising students to provide proper training or supervision may be grounds for disciplinary action <u>and/or</u> revocation or restriction of the		(A) be a student at an A.B.A. accredited law school <u>, or <del>be a</del></u> <u>recent graduate of such a school</u> , <u>awaiting the result of the first bar</u> <u>examination after the student's</u> <u>graduation or the result of that</u> <u>examination</u> ;	
	attorney's authority to supervise students.		The LRRC adopted the proposed change to (f)(5).	

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> <u>Recommendation</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 305	<ul> <li>LR Gen 305 CONSEQUENCES OF ELECTRONIC FILING</li> <li>*****</li> <li>(b) Confirmation of Court Filing. A document electronically filed through the Court's ECF transmission facilities system shall be deemed filed on the date and time stated on the NEF received from the Court.</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	
LR Gen 306	<ul> <li>LR Gen 306 ENTRY OF COURT-ISSUED DOCUMENTS</li> <li>(a) Entry; Force and Effect. All orders, decrees and judgments of the Court will be filed <u>entered</u> electronically, and the minutes of proceedings will be entered electronically, in accordance with these Local Rules, which will constitute entry on the docket kept by the Clerk under Fed. R. Civ. P. 58 and 79 and Fed. R. Crim. P. 55. Any order or other court-issued document filed <u>entered</u> electronically which contains a "/s/" in place of an original signature of a judge or clerk has the same force and effect as if the judge or clerk had signed a paper copy of the order and it had been entered on the docket in a conventional manner.</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

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<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> <u>Recommendation</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 309	LR Gen 309 SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS ****	The General Rules Subcommittee recommended that the LRRC reject the proposed change to LR Gen 309.	PROPOSED CHANGE REJECTED DUE TO THE CHANGE ACCEPTED IN REGARD TO LR CV 5.1.	
	(c) Certificates of Service on Electronically Filed Documents. All documents filed using the ECF system shall include a certificate of service stating that the document has been filed electronically and that it is available for viewing and downloading from the ECF system. The certificate of service must identify the manner in which the service on each party was accomplished affixed to the document filed with			
	the Court certifying the date and manner of service, the names of the persons served, and their mail or electronic addresses, facsimile numbers, or the addresses of the place of delivery, as appropriate for the manner of service.			
LR Gen 310	LR Gen 310 NOTICE OF COURT ORDERS AND JUDGMENTS The electronic transmission to a Filing User of an order or judgment through a NEF constitutes notice as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 77(d) and Fed. R. Crim. P. 49(c). When mailing paper copies of an electronically filed <u>entered</u> order to a party who is not a Filing User, the Clerk's Office will include the NEF.	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

<u>Rule</u> <u>Number</u>	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> <u>Recommendation</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 313	<ul> <li>LR Gen 313 PUBLIC ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC DOCKETS AND FILES</li> <li>(a) Public Access at Clerk's Office. The public may obtain at the Clerk's Office during regular business hours electronic access to the electronic docket and documents that have been electronically filed. If a printed copy is requested, a copy fee for an electronic reproduction will be assessed in accordance with the Clerk may charge a fee consistent with the District Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1914.</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	

Civil Rules				•
<u>Rule</u>	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	Court Action
<u>Number</u>				
LR Cv 5.1	LR Cv 5.1 SERVICE AND PROOF OF	The Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended	The LRRC accepted the proposed change	
	SERVICE	adoption of the proposed language in (a), and	to the title as recommended by the Civil	
	****	recommended the following changes to the	Rules Subcommittee; and altered the	
		title of the rule and the proposed language in	original proposal to (a) and the	
	(a) Proof of Service <u>Summons</u> .	(b). The language added by the Civil Rules Subcommittee is shown with a <u>double-</u>	subcommittee's revision of (b).	
	(1) Proof of service of any document,	<u>underline</u> and the language removed by the	The language added by the LRRC to	
	except those listed in LR Cv 5(d)	Subcommittee is shown with a double-	original proposal is shown with a <u>double-</u>	
	and (e) above, required to be served	strikethrough.	underline and the language removed by	
	on a party or non-party shall be filed		the LRRC is shown with a <del>double</del> strikethrough.	
	with the Court within 7 days after	LR Cv 5.1 PROOF OF SERVICE OF	Straten ough:	
	service is made. In the case of	SUMMONS AND OTHER		
		DOCUMENTS.	LR Cv 5.1 PROOF OF SERVICE OF	
	documents required to be served		SUMMONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.	
	personally, proof of service shall		<u>DOCOMENTS.</u>	
	include a certification by the person			
:	making service that the documents		(a) <b>Proof of Service</b> <u>Summons</u> .	
	were served, the date of service, and			
	a description of the manner in which		(1) Proof of service of any document,	
	service was made. Unless service		except those listed in LR Cv 5(d)	
	is waived, proof of service of a		and (e) above, required to be served	
	summons must be filed with the		on a party or non-party shall be filed	
	Court within 7 days after service is		with the Court within 7 days after	
	made. Except for service by a		service is made. In the case of	
	United States marshal or deputy		documents required to be served	
	marshal, the proof of service must		personally, proof of service shall	
	consist of an affidavit by the person		include a certification by the person	
	who made service certifying:		making service that the documents	
	(1) the date and manner of		were served, the date of service, and	
	service;		a description of the manner in which	
	(2) the names of the persons		service was made. <u>Unless service</u>	
	served; and		is waived, proof of service of a	
	(3) the address of the person		summons must be filed with the	
	<u>served.</u>		Court within <del>7 days after service is</del>	
	(2) — Failure to file proof of service will		made a reasonable time after receipt	
	not nocessarily affect the validity of		of proof of service. Except for	
	the service.			

Civil Rules		Carbon		
<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
Inumper		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	service by a United States marshal	
	(b) Certificates of Service	(b) Certificates of Service as to Filings	or deputy marshal, the proof of	
		(b) Certificates of Service as to Filings Other Than the Summons	service must consist of an affidavit	
	Unless a rule provides otherwise, any		by the person who made service	
	paper presented for filing after the complaint	Unless a rule provides otherwise,	certifying:	
	must contain a certificate of service certifying:	Unless a document is filed by electronic means,	(1) the date and manner of	
	(1) the date and manner of service;	the service of which would be governed by LR	service;	
	(2) the names of the persons served; and	Gen 309, any paper presented for filing after the	(2) the names of the persons	
	(3) their mail or electronic addresses,	complaint must contain a certificate of service	served; and	
	facsimile numbers, or the addresses of the places of delivery, as appropriate	certifying stating:	(3) the addresses of the persons served.	
	for the manner of service.	(1) the date and manner of service;	<u>seiveu.</u>	
	Tor the manner of bottiet.	(2) the names of the persons served; and		
	The certificate of service shall be affixed to the	(3) the means by which the persons were	The language added by the LRRC to the <u>Civil Rules Subcommittee's revision</u> of the	
	papers filed with the Court.	served; and	original proposal is shown with a <u>double-</u>	
		(3) (4) their mail or electronic addresses. facsimile numbers, or the addresses of	underline and the language removed by	
		the places of delivery, as appropriate	the LRRC is shown with a <del>double</del>	
		for the manner of service.	strikethrough.	
			(b) Certificates of Service as to	
		The certificate of service shall be affixed to the papers filed with the Court.	Filings Other Than the Summons	
		papers med with the coult.		
			Unless a rule provides otherwise,	
			<u>Unless a document is filed by electronic</u> means, the service of which would be	
			governed by LR Gen 309, any paper	
			presented for filing document conventionally	
			filed after the complaint must contain a	
			certificate of service certifying stating:	
			(1) the date and manner of service;	
			(2) the names of the persons served:	
a.			and (3) their-mail or electronic addresses,	
			factimile numbers, or the addresses	
			of the places of delivery, as	
		·	appropriate for the manner of	
			service.	

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
			The certificate of service shall be affixed to the papers documents filed with the Court.	
LR Cv 55	LR Cv 55 MOTIONS FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT A motion for entry of default or entry of a default judgment made against a party not represented by counsel shall be accompanied by a certification that: (a) Notice of the motion was given to the party against whom a default or default	The Civil Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	
	judgment is sought by both regular mail, postage prepaid, and by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. A copy of the return receipt shall be appended to the certification;		· · · · ·	
	<ul> <li>(b) To the best of the movant's knowledge, the address set forth in such certification is the last known address of that party; and</li> </ul>			
	(c) The party against whom a default or default judgment is sought is not in the military service of the United States as defined in the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 Servicemembers Civil Relief Act of 2003, as amended.			

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
LR Cv 72	LR Cv 72 AUTHORITY OF MAGISTRATE JUDGES IN CIVIL CASES *****	The Civil Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	In light of the additional changes made to LR Cr 57.2 (see discussion below), The LRRC accepted the subcommittee's recommendation, and further modified the proposed change upon the Clerk's	
	<ul> <li>(c) Appeals from Objections to Rulings on Nondispositive Matters.</li> </ul>	•	Office subsequent recommendation. The Clerk's Office proposed one additional change to LR Cv 72 (indicated by <u>double</u>	
	<ul> <li>(1) Time for Appeal Objections;</li> <li>Failure to File. Any appeal from objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a</li> </ul>		<u>underline</u> ) to keep it consistent with LR Cr 57.2. The language added is indicated by a <u>double-underline</u> .	
	nondispositive matter shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is <u>entered</u> served on the appellant. The appellant		(c) Appeals from Objections to Rulings on Nondispositive Matters.	
	objecting party shall also order a transcript of any evidentiary hearing(s) before the magistrate		(1) Time for Appeal Objections; Failure to File. Any appeal from objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a nondispositive	
	judge within the same 14-day period. Failure to file specific objections and order the transcript in a timely manner constitutes waiver of the right to review by the district		matter <u>referred under Fed. R. Civ. P.</u> <u>72(a)</u> shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is <u>entered</u> served on the appellant. The	
	judge and the right to appeal the Court's decision.		appellant <u>objecting party</u> shall also order a transcript of any evidentiary hearing(s) before the magistrate judge within the same 14-day period.	
	(2) Content of Appeal Objections. Any such appeal objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling in a nondispositive matter shall consist of a notice of appeal setting forth		Failure to file specific objections and order the transcript in a timely manner constitutes waiver of the right to review by the district judge and the	
	the basis <u>of the objection</u> for the appeal and <u>be accompanied by a</u> memorandum of law which complies with LR Cv 7.		<ul> <li>right to appeal the Court's decision.</li> <li>(2) Content of Appeal Objections. Any such appeal objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling in a</li> </ul>	
	(3) Responses and Replies. A response to an appeal objection shal be served and filed within 14 days		nondispositive matter shall consist of a notice of appeal setting forth the basis of the objection for the appeal and be	

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
	after the notice of appeal objection is served. The appellant objecting party may serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the Court, nothing further shall be filed in support of or in opposition response to an appeal of objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling. Any response and/or reply shall comply with LR Cv 7. *****		<ul> <li><u>accompanied by</u> a memorandum of law which complies with LR Cv 7.</li> <li>(3) Responses and Replies. A response to an appeal objection shall be served and filed within 14 days after the notice of appeal objection is served. The appellant objecting party may serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the Court, nothing further shall be filed in support of or in opposition response to an appeal of objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling. Any response and/or reply shall comply with LR Cv 7.</li> </ul>	
Suggestion from the Bar	During the 2011-12 local rules review cycle, Stacey Nakasian, Esq. suggested that the Committee consider adopting a rule setting a Default Standard for Discovery, Including Discovery of Electronically Stored Information (ESI). The LRRC created an <i>ad hoc</i> committee to study and recommend an ESI proposal for consideration during the 2012-2013 LRRC cycle. The members of the ad hoc committee are: Jeffrey Techentin, Byron McMasters, Ranen Schechner, and Steven Richard. Mr. Richard will chair the ad hoc committee.	The <i>ad hoc</i> subcommittee reported that they would continue their work on ESI discovery during the 2013-2014 local rules review cycle.	N/A	
Suggestion from the Bar	Members of the Civil Rules Subcommittee proposed that the Court adopt a rule for uniform definitions in discovery requests in civil cases similar to District of Massachusetts LR 26.5. (Uniform Definitions in Discovery Requests).	The Civil Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE REJECTED. The full LRRC did not believe that the Court needed to impose uniform definitions on the bar.	N/A

Civil Rules	5			
<u>Rule</u> <u>Number</u>	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
Suggestion from the Bar	Robert Fine, Esq. proposed that LR Cv 5.1 be further amended with the addition of a new section to allow for electronic service of discovery: The purpose of the amendment is to make it clear that electronic service of discovery is acceptable service. This would also facilitate delivery of the discovery requests to the client. (c) Electronic Service of Discovery: "Unless otherwise ordered, service of discovery under Civil Rules 33, 34 and 36 shall be effective by electronic mailing to the address listed for counsel at their ECF address." He added that the LRRC could expand this provision to include Rules 30 and 31 on depositions.	The Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended the following change on the basis of Mr. Fine's suggestion: LR Cv 26. Discovery (a) Discovery Conference. Unless the Court otherwise orders, within 14 days after the last answer or responsive pleading has been filed by all parties against whom claims have been asserted, the parties shall confer for the purposes specified by <u>Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)</u> ; provided, however, that if in lieu of an answer, a motion is filed that, if granted, would dispose of the entire case, the time for the parties' conference may be deferred until not later than 14 days after such answer or pleading is thereafter filed. (1) During the parties' conference, they shall, in addition to discussing the items identified in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3), discuss whether they will consent to electronic service of requests and notices under Fed. R. Civ. P. 30, 31, 33, 34, and 36, as contemplated by Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(E).	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED.	
		****	· · ·	
Suggestion from the Bar	During the 2011-2012 local rules review cycle, Girard Visconti, Esq and Marc DeSisto, Esq. proposed that the Court adopt a rule requiring pro se litigants to certify that an attorney has not drafted the documents that they have filed with the Court. The LRRC chose to table the proposal for reconsideration during the 2012- 2013 local rules review cycle.	The Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended tabling this suggestion until the Rhode Island Supreme Court addresses this issue.	The LRRC agreed to table the suggestion for reconsideration during the 2013-14 local rules review cycle.	

Criminal I		Subservittes Deserves define	Eull Committee Action	Court
<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Cr 57.2	LR Cr 57.2 AUTHORITY OF MAGISTRATE JUDGES IN CRIMINAL CASES ***** (c) Appeals from Objections to Rulings On Nondispositive Matters.	The Criminal Rules Subcommittee recommended that the amendment be tabled for further study because it seemed to be in conflict with certain procedures outlined in the United States Code requiring parties to file "motions" or "appeals" to a Magistrate Judge's ruling in bail and misdemeanor	REVISED PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	· · ·
	(1) Time for Appeal Objections. Any appeal from objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a nondispositive matter shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is served on the appellant entered. The appellant objecting party shall also order a transcript of any evidentiary hearing(s) before the magistrate judge within the same 14-day period.	matters. After receiving a revised proposal from the Clerk's Office in regard to the Criminal Rules Subcommittee's concerns regarding LR Cr 57.2, they endorsed the revised proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court. (The language added by the Clerk's Office is indicated by <u>double underline.)</u> LR Cr 57.2 AUTHORITY OF MAGISTRATE JUDGES IN CRIMINAL CASES		- -
	(2) Content of Appeal Objections. Any such appeal objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling in a nondispositive matter shall consist of a notice of appeal setting forth the basis of the objection for the appeal and be accompanied by a memorandum of law which complies with LR Cr 47.	<ul> <li>(c) Appeals from Objections to Rulings On Nondispositive Matters.</li> <li>(1) Time for Appeal Objections. Any appeal from objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a nondispositive matter referred under Fed. R. Crim. P. 59(a) shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is served on the appellant entered. The appellant</li> </ul>		
	(3) Responses and Replies. A response to an appeal objection shall be served and filed within 14 days after the notice of appeal objection is served. The appellant objecting party may	<ul> <li><u>objecting party</u> shall also order a transcript of any evidentiary hearing(s) before the magistrate judge within the same 14-day period.</li> <li>(2) Content of <u>Appeal Objections</u>. Any</li> </ul>		

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<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
	serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the Court, nothing further shall be filed in support of or in <u>response</u> opposition to an appeal of objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling. Any response and/or reply shall comply with LR Cr 47. *****	<ul> <li>such appeal objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling in a nondispositive matter shall consist of a notice of appeal setting forth the basis of the objection for the appeal and be accompanied by a memorandum of law which complies with LR Cr 47.</li> <li>(3) Responses and Replies. A response to an appeal objection shall be served and filed within 14 days after the notice of appeal objection is served. The appellant objecting party may serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the Court, nothing further shall be filed in support of or in response opposition to an appeal of objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling. Any response and/or reply shall comply with LR Cr</li> </ul>		Action
		*COMMENT <u>Under 18 U.S.C. §3145(a) and (b), a party may</u> have a release or detention order issued by a magistrate judge reviewed by a district judge by filing a "motion" with the Court. However, since these orders relate to non-dispositive matters referred to a magistrate judge under Fed. R. Crim. P. 59(a), parties may file a response to the motion for review of a release or detention order within 14 days after the motion is served, and the moving party may file a reply 14 days thereafter in line with LR <u>Cr 57.2(c)</u> .		

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**United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island** 

# **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL RULES**

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> <u>Recommendation</u>	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 104	LR Gen 104 REMOVAL AND COPYING OF DOCUMENTS *****	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	COURT APPROVED CHANGE
	(b) Copies. Upon the request of any person, the Clerk, to the extent reasonable under the circumstances, shall provide copies of any public document filed in a case. The Clerk may charge a reasonable fee for copying consistent with the District Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1914.			
LR Gen 105	LR Gen 105 ASSIGNMENT OF CASES         (c) Emergency Matters.         *****         (1) After Hours Filings. Counsel anticipating a possible need for an emergency filing, or emergency action by the court, or both, during a period when the Clerk's Office is ordinarily closed should consult with the Clerk's Office at the earliest opportunity during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, 9:00AM - 4:30PM) to make arrangements. A filing user should not expect that a filing made through ECF will be addressed outside normal business hours unless the filer contacts the Clerk's Office in advance to make special arrangements.	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	The LRRC accepted the subcommittee's recommendation, and further modified the proposed change upon the Clerk's Office subsequent recommendation. The language added is indicated by a <u>double-underline</u> and the language removed is indicated by a <del>double</del> strikethrough. (c) Emergency Matters. ***** (1) <u>After Hours Filings.</u> Counsel anticipating a possible need for an emergency filing, or emergency action by the court, or both, during a period when the Clerk's Office is ordinarily closed should consult with the Clerk's Office at the earliest opportunity during normal business hours (Monday through Friday, <u>9:00AM - 4:30PM</u> ) to make arrangements. A filing user should not expect that a filing made through ECF will be addressed outside normal business hours unless the filer contacts the Clerk's Office in advance to make special arrangements.	COURT APPROVED CHANGE

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

Rule           Number	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> <u>Recommendation</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 108	As part of its CJA Cost Containment effort, the Court proposed the following change to LR Gen 108 to allow court-appointed counsel greater flexibility in obtaining interpreters for attorney-client meetings. The proposed amendment was adopted by the Court after the LRRC's report was submitted on July 3, 2013, and was included in the package of amendments approved for public comment.			COURT INITIATED CHANGE
	LR Gen 108 INTERPRETERS			
	****			
	(b) Requests for Interpreters.			
	(1) Cases Brought by the United States. In all criminal cases and in civil cases initiated by the United States, requests for interpreters shall be made to this Court's staff interpreter. The Federal Defender and counsel appointed by the Court representing an indigent client shall use the Court's staff interpreter, whenever possible, for all in-court proceedings.			
	Unless otherwise authorized by the Court, counsel for a party who intends to seek reimbursement for interpreter services provided outside of Court proceedings shall first request such services from the Court's staff interpreter. If the Court's staff interpreter is unavailable to provide such services, the staff interpreter will arrange for a suitable replacement <u>counsel may</u> <u>utilize a suitable replacement in accordance with</u> the procedures outlined in the District of Rhode <u>Island's Criminal Justice Act Plan.</u>			
	****			

Rule           Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	<u>Court</u> Action
LR Gen 109	<ul> <li>LR Gen 109 BANKRUPTCY</li> <li>(a) References and Withdrawals of References of Bankruptcy Cases. All cases arising under Title 11 shall be referred automatically to the bankruptcy judge(s) of this District. The reference of any case or proceeding or any portion thereof may be withdrawn at any time by the District Court, <i>sua</i> <i>sponte</i>, or, for good cause shown, upon the motion of any party. A motion for withdrawal of a reference shall not automatically stay any proceeding, but the District Court in its discretion may order a stay.</li> <li>If a bankruptcy judge or district judge determines that entry of a final order or judgment by a bankruptcy judge would not be consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution in a particular proceeding referred under this rule and determined to be a core matter, the bankruptcy judge shall, unless otherwise ordered by the District Court, hear the proceeding and submit proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law to the District Court. The District Court may treat any order of the Bankruptcy Court as proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law in the event the District Court concludes that the bankruptcy judge could not have entered a final order or judgment consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee recommended that the full LRRC compare the proposed changes to (a) and (d)(1) with the recently adopted District of Massachusetts Local Rule 206. The General Rules Subcommittee recommended adoption of the remaining proposed changes to the rule.	The LRRC altered the proposed change to (a) in light of the Committee's discussion; accepted the proposed changes to (d) and (f); and tabled the proposed changes to (e), (f)(1), (f)(5), (f)(6), and (f)(7) for reconsideration after consulting with the Bankruptcy Court's Attorney Advisory Committee. The LRRC altered the proposed change to (a) by adding additional language drawn from the Dist. of Mass. LR 206 (Added language is double-underlined. Original proposal language is single- underlined.) ***** <u>If a bankruptcy judge or district judge determines that entry of a final order or judgment by a bankruptcy judge would not be consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution in a particular proceeding referred under this rule and determined to be a core matter, the bankruptcy judge shall, unless otherwise ordered by the District Court, hear the proceeding and submit proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law to the District Court.</u>	COURT APPROVED CHANGE
	<ul> <li>*****</li> <li>(d) Reports and Recommendations by Bankruptcy Judge.</li> <li>(1) Time for Objections. Any objection to proposed findings of fact and/or rulings of law by a bankruptcy judge in a non-core proceeding shall be filed and served within</li> </ul>		<u>The district judge shall make a de novo</u> <u>review upon the record or, after additional</u> <u>evidence, of any portion of the bankruptcy</u> <u>judge's findings of fact or conclusions of</u> <u>law to which specific written objection has</u> <u>been made in accordance with the federal</u> <u>and local rules of bankruptcy procedure.</u> <u>The district judge may accept, reject, or</u>	

\* Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	<u>Court</u> Action
<u>uiiidei</u>	14 days after such proposed findings and	<u>Recommendation</u>	modify the proposed findings of fact or	Action
	rulings are served on the objecting party.		conclusions of law, receive further	
			evidence, or recommit the matter to the	
	****		bankruptcy judge with instructions.	
	(e) Appeals to Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. In		The District Court may treat any order of	
	accordance with 28 U.S.C. §158(b)(6), when all		the Bankruptcy Court as proposed findings	
	<del>parties consent,</del> appeals from any judgment,		of fact and conclusions of law in the event	
	order or decree of a bankruptcy judge which are		the District Court concludes that the	
	referred to in 28 U.S.C. § 158(a) may will be		bankruptcy judge could not have entered a	
	heard and determined by the Bankruptcy		final order or judgment consistent with	
	Appellate Panel for the First Circuit <u>unless a</u>		Article III of the United States	
	party elects to have the appeal heard by the		Constitution.	
	District Court in accordance with Bankruptcy			
	Rule 8001(e)(1).		Next, the LRRC accepted the proposed	
			changes to (d) and the first paragraph of	
	(f) Appeals to District Court. Except as otherwise		(f). (The reference to the "Interim	
	provided in this subsection (f) or elsewhere in		Bankruptcy Rules.")	
	these rules, or unless otherwise ordered by the			
	District Court, appeals or motions for leave to		Lastly, the LRRC recommended that	
	appeal to the District Court from any judgment,		the changes to $(e)$ , $(f)(1)$ , $(f)(5)$ , $(f)(6)$ ,	
	order or decree of a bankruptcy judge shall be		and (f)(7) be tabled until the next local	
	governed by the applicable provisions of Rules		rules cycle. They further recommended	
	8001 - 8020 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy		that the proposed changes to those	
	Procedure ("Bankruptcy Rules") <del>, and any and</del>		subsections of (f) be forwarded to the	
	all Interim Bankruptcy Rules ("Interim Rules")		Bankruptcy Court's Attorney Advisory	
	which became effective on or after October 17,		Committee for review.	
	<del>2005.</del>			
	(1) Notice of Appeal Record on Appeal. When a			
	notice of appeal is filed with the bankruptcy			
	clerk, the bankruptcy clerk shall, forthwith,			
	transmit a copy of the notice of appeal to the			
	District Court clerk, together with a copy of the			
	judgment, order or decree that is the subject of			
	the appeal, and the Appeal Cover Sheet. The			
	District Court clerk, thereupon, shall treat the			
	matter administratively as a newly filed case, but			
	in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 8001(f)(2),			
	the matter shall not be deemed "pending" in this			

Rule	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u>	Full Committee Action	Court
Number		<b>Recommendation</b>		<u>Action</u>
	Court until the record has been transmitted and docketed.			
	docketed.			
	Upon the completion of the record on			
	appeal in accordance with Bankruptcy Rule			
	8007(b), the bankruptcy clerk shall transmit			
	a copy of the following to the District Court			
	<u>clerk:</u>			
	(A) Notice of appeal;			
	(B) Judgment, order or decree that			
	is the subject of the appeal;			
	(C) Docket sheet;			
	(D) Appeal cover sheet;			
	(E) Election form requesting the			
	appeal be heard by the district court:			
	(F) Designation(s) of the contents			
	of the record on appeal;			
	(G) Statement(s) of issues on			
	appeal; and			
	(H) Any written decision(s) and a			
	(H) Any written decision(s) and a transcript of any oral decision(s) by the			
	bankruptcy judge stating the reasons for			
	the judgment, order or decree			
	The District Court clerk, thereupon, shall			
	treat the matter as a newly filed case and			
	docket the appeal in accordance with			
	Bankruptcy Rule 8007(b).			
	****			
	(5) Dismissal of Appeals by Bankruptcy			
	<b>Judge.</b> A bankruptcy judge may dismiss an			

Rule	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u>
Number	appeal if:	<b><u>Recommendation</u></b>		Action
	(A) the notice of appeal is not filed within the time specified in Bankruptcy Rule 8002;			
	<ul> <li>(B) the appellant has failed to file a designation of the record or a statement of the issues within the time specified in Bankruptcy Rule 8006 or any extension thereof; or</li> </ul>			
	(C) the appellant has failed to comply with paragraph (6)(C) of this subsection.			
	(D)(C) the appellant has failed to pay the prescribed appeal filing fee as required by Bankruptcy Rule 8001(a).			
	(6) Record on Appeal. In addition to any other applicable requirements, the Bankruptcy Court clerk shall ensure that the record electronically transmitted to the District Court clerk includes:			
	<ul> <li>(A) the judgment, order or decree</li> <li>of the bankruptcy judge that is</li> <li>the subject of the appeal;</li> </ul>			
	(B) any written decision(s) and a transcript of any oral decision(s) by the bankruptcy judge stating the reasons for the judgment(s), order(s) and/or decree(s) referred to in			

subparagraph (A);         (C) the record on appeal;         (D) a statement of the issues on appeal; and;         (E) a copy of the docket sheet.         (F) a copy of the docket sheet.         (7) Form of and Schedule for Filing Briefs. Unless otherwise ordered by the District Court or provided in these rules, the form and schedule for filing appellate briefs and memoranda shall be governed by Bankruptcy Rule 8009 and 8010, except that:         (A) all briefs-and memoranda and appendices thereto shall conform to the applicable requirements of LR Cv 7; and         (B) with respect to documents that are conventionally filed, two copies of any brief for memorandum shall be provided to the district judge to whom the appel or motion	<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> Recommendation	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> Action
Such motion and any related objection(s) and replies shall be governed by the applicable provisions of LR Cv 7.	Number	subparagraph (A);         (C) the record on appeal;         (D) a statement of the issues on appeal; and;         (E) a copy of the docket sheet.         (F) Form of and Schedule for Filing Briefs. Unless otherwise ordered by the District Court or provided in these rules, the form and schedule for filing appellate briefs and memoranda shall be governed by Bankruptcy Rule 8009 and 8010, except that:         (A) all briefs, and memoranda and appendices thereto shall conform to the applicable requirements of LR Cv 7; and         (B) with respect to documents that are conventionally filed, two copies of any brief or memorandum shall be provided to the district judge to whom the appeal or motion for leave to appeal is assigned.         Such motion and any related objection(s) and replies shall be governed by the applicable provisions		Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>

Rule Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 112	LR Gen 112 USE OF CELLULAR PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES *****	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	COURT APPROVED CHANGE
	<ul> <li>(b) Cellular Phones, Laptops, Dictaphones and PDAs and Other-Electronic Devices. Electronic devices, including but not limited to Ccellular or smart phones, laptops, tablets, dictaphones and so- called personal digital assistants ("PDAs"), such as Palm Pilots and Blackberries, may be brought into the Courthouse or that portion of the John O. Pastore Building that is occupied by the Court only by attorneys or those having express authorization and only upon the following conditions:</li> <li>(1) Unless the use of the electronic device is expressly authorized by the presiding judicial officer, Bbefore entering any courtroom, chambers or Grand Jury room, anyone carrying an cellular phone, Dictaphone or PDA electronic device shall at the direction of the presiding judicial officer either:</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>(A) eheck it with the courtroom clerk or Court security officer at that location turn off the device completely and keep the device turned off during all times in the courtroom, chambers or Grand Jury room; or</li> </ul>			
	(B) turn off the device completely and keep the device turned off during all times in the courtroom, chambers or Grand Jury room check it with the courtroom clerk or court security officer at that location.			
	(2) Dictaphones may be used only outside the courtroom or chambers.			

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	<u>Court</u> Action
<u>Inumber</u>	<ul> <li>(3) Laptops <u>or tablets may be used in a</u> courtroom or chambers only with the express permission of the presiding judicial officer.</li> <li>(4)(2) Upon entering the building, any person carrying a<u>n electronic device cellular phone</u>, laptop, dictaphone shall acknowledge and agree that, upon violation of the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) above and/or of any other limitations placed on the use of such instruments, said device may be confiscated.</li> </ul>			Action
LR Gen 206	<ul> <li>LR Gen 206 APPEARANCES AND WITHDRAWALS         <ul> <li>*****</li> <li>(f) Appearances by Law Students.</li> <li>*****</li> </ul> </li> <li>(2) Eligibility to Appear as Law Student Counsel. In order to be eligible to appear as Law Student Counsel, a Senior Law Student must:         <ul> <li>(A) be a student at an A.B.A. accredited law school, or be a recent graduate of such a school, awaiting the first bar examination after the student's graduation or the result of that examination;</li> <li>*****</li> </ul> </li> <li>(5) Revocation. A Law Student Counsel acting under this rule shall comply with the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Supreme Court of the State of Rhode Island and the Local Rules of this Court. Failure of an attorney supervising students to provide proper training or supervision may be grounds for disciplinary action and/or revocation or restriction of the attorney's authority to supervise students.</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee recommended that the proposed changes be discussed by the full LRRC, particularly in regard to the proposed change to (f)(2)(A).	The LRRC modified the proposed language to (f)(2). The language added by the LRRC is shown with a double- <u>underline</u> and language removed by the LRRC is shown with a double strikethrough:         (f)       Appearances by Law Students. *****         (2)       Eligibility to Appear as Law Student Counsel. In order to be eligible to appear as Law Student Counsel, a Senior Law Student must:         (A)       be a student at an A.B.A. accredited law school, or be a recent graduate of such a school, awaiting the result of the first bar examination after the student's graduation-or the result of that examination;         The LRRC adopted the proposed change to (f)(5).	COURT APPROVED CHANGE

Rule	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u>	Full Committee Action	Court
<u>Number</u>		Recommendation		Action
LR Gen 305	<ul> <li>LR Gen 305 CONSEQUENCES OF ELECTRONIC FILING</li> <li>*****</li> <li>(b) Confirmation of Court Filing. A document electronically filed through the Court's ECF transmission facilities system shall be deemed filed on the date and time stated on the NEF received from the Court.</li> <li>*****</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	COURT APPROVED CHANGE
LR Gen 306	<ul> <li>LR Gen 306 ENTRY OF COURT-ISSUED DOCUMENTS</li> <li>(a) Entry; Force and Effect. All orders, decrees and judgments of the Court will be filed entered electronically, and the minutes of proceedings will be entered electronically, in accordance with these Local Rules, which will constitute entry on the docket kept by the Clerk under Fed. R. Civ. P. 58 and 79 and Fed. R. Crim. P. 55. Any order or other court-issued document filed entered electronically which contains a "/s/" in place of an original signature of a judge or clerk has the same force and effect as if the judge or clerk had signed a paper copy of the order and it had been entered on the docket in a conventional manner.</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	COURT APPROVED CHANGE

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> Action
LR Gen 309	LR Gen 309 SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS BY <i>ELECTRONIC MEANS</i> <i>****</i> (c) Certificates of Service on Electronically Filed Documents. All documents filed using the ECF system shall include a certificate of service stating that the document has been filed electronically and that it is available for viewing and downloading from the ECF system. The certificate of service must identify the manner in which the service on each party was accomplished affixed to the document filed with the Court certifying the date and manner of service, the names of the persons served, and their mail or electronic addresses, facsimile numbers, or the addresses of the place of delivery, as appropriate for the manner of service.	The General Rules Subcommittee recommended that the LRRC reject the proposed change to LR Gen 309.	PROPOSED CHANGE REJECTED DUE TO THE CHANGE ACCEPTED IN REGARD TO LR CV 5.1.	COURT APPROVED CHANGE
LR Gen 310	LR Gen 310 NOTICE OF COURT ORDERS AND JUDGMENTS The electronic transmission to a Filing User of an order or judgment through a NEF constitutes notice as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 77(d) and Fed. R. Crim. P. 49(c). When mailing paper copies of an electronically <del>filed</del> <u>entered</u> order to a party who is not a Filing User, the Clerk's Office will include the NEF.	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	COURT APPROVED CHANGE

<u>Rule</u> <u>Number</u>	Suggestion Received*	<u>Subcommittee</u> <u>Recommendation</u>	Full Committee Action	<u>Court</u> <u>Action</u>
LR Gen 313	<ul> <li><b>LR Gen 313 PUBLIC ACCESS TO</b> <b>ELECTRONIC DOCKETS AND FILES</b></li> <li>(a) Public Access at Clerk's Office. The public may obtain at the Clerk's Office during regular business hours electronic access to the electronic docket and documents that have been electronically filed. If a printed copy is requested, a copy fee for an electronic reproduction will be assessed in accordance with the Clerk may charge a fee consistent with the District Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1914.</li> </ul>	The General Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	COURT APPROVED CHANGE

Civil Rules	5			
<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	Court Action
LR Cv 5.1	LR Cv 5.1       SERVICE AND PROOF OF SERVICE         *****         (a)       Proof of Service Summons.         (1)       Proof of service of any document, except those listed in LR Cv 5(d) and (e) above, required to be served on a party or non party shall be filed with the Court within 7 days after service is made. In the case of documents required to be served personally, proof of service shall include a certification by the person making service that the documents were served, the date of service, and a description of the manner in which service was made. Unless service is waived, proof of service of a summons must be filed with the Court within 7 days after service is made. Except for service by a United States marshal or deputy marshal, the proof of service must consist of an affidavit by the person who made service certifying: <ol> <li>the date and manner of service:</li> <li>the names of the person served; and</li> <li>the address of the person served; and</li> <li>the address of the person served.</li> </ol>	The Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended adoption of the proposed language in (a), and recommended the following changes to the title of the rule and the proposed language in (b). The language added by the Civil Rules Subcommittee is shown with a <u>double-underline</u> and the language removed by the Subcommittee is shown with a <u>double strikethrough</u> . LR Cv 5.1 <u>PROOF OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.</u>	The LRRC accepted the proposed change to the title as recommended by the Civil Rules Subcommittee; and altered the original proposal to (a) and the subcommittee's revision of (b).The language added by the LRRC to original proposal is shown with a double- underline and the language removed by the LRRC is shown with a double strikethrough.LR Cv 5.1 PROOF OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.(a)Proof of Service of any document, except those listed in LR Cv 5(d) and (e) above, required to be served on a party or non party shall be filed with the Court within 7 days after service is made. In the ease of documents required to be served personally, proof of service shall include a certification by the person making service that the documents were served, the date of service, and a description of the manner in which service was made. Unless service is waived, proof of service of a summons must be filed with the Court within 7 days after service is made. In the ease of documents were served, the date of service, and a description of the manner in which service was made. Unless service is waived, proof of service of a summons must be filed with the Court within 7 days after service is made a reasonable time after receipt of proof of service.	COURT MODIFIED CHANGE TO FIRST SENTENCE OF (a):

Civil Rules	5			
Rule Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
	<ul> <li>(b) Certificates of Service</li> <li>Unless a rule provides otherwise, any paper presented for filing after the complaint must contain a certificate of service certifying:         <ol> <li>(1) the date and manner of service;</li> <li>(2) the names of the persons served; and</li> <li>(3) their mail or electronic addresses, facsimile numbers, or the addresses of the places of delivery, as appropriate for the manner of service.</li> </ol> </li> <li>The certificate of service shall be affixed to the papers filed with the Court.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>(b) Certificates of Service as to Filings Other Than the Summons</li> <li>Unless a rule provides otherwise. Unless a document is filed by electronic means, the service of which would be governed by LR Gen 309, any paper presented for filing after the complaint must contain a certificate of service certifying stating:</li> <li>(1) the date and manner of service;</li> <li>(2) the names of the persons served; and</li> <li>(3) the means by which the persons were served; and</li> <li>(4) their mail or electronic addresses, facesimile numbers, or the addresses of the places of delivery, as appropriate for the manner of service.</li> </ul>	Except for service by a United States marshal or deputy marshal, the proof of service must consist of an affidavit by the person who made service certifying: <ul> <li>(1) the date and manner of service;</li> <li>(2) the names of the persons served; and</li> <li>(3) the addresses of the persons served.</li> </ul> The language added by the LRRC to the Civil Rules Subcommittee's revision of the original proposal is shown with a double-underline and the language removed by the LRRC is shown with a double strikethrough.           (b)         Certificates of Service as to Filings Other Than the Summons           Unless a rule provides otherwise, Unless a document is filed by electronic means, the service of which would be governed by LR Gen 309, any paper presented for filing document conventionally filed after the complaint must contain a certificate of service eertifying stating: <ul> <li>(1) the date and manner of service;</li> <li>(2) the names of the persons served; and</li> <li>(3) their mail or electronic addresses, of the places of delivery, as appropriate for the manner of</li> </ul>	service is made a reasonable time after receipt of proof of service.

Civil Rules	8			
<u>Rule</u>	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	Court Action
<u>Number</u>			service.	
			<u>The certificate of service shall be affixed to</u> the <del>papers</del> documents filed with the Court.	
			the papers documents med with the Court.	
LR Cv 55	LR Cv 55 MOTIONS FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT	The Civil Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED	COURT APPROVED CHANGE
	A motion for entry of default or entry of a			
	default judgment made against a party not represented by counsel shall be accompanied by a certification that:			
	(a) Notice of the motion was given to the			
	party against whom a default or default judgment is sought by both regular			
	mail, postage prepaid, and by certified			
	or registered mail, return receipt requested. A copy of the return receipt			
	shall be appended to the certification;			
	(b) To the best of the movant's knowledge,			
	the address set forth in such certification is the last known address			
	of that party; and			
	(c) The party against whom a default or			
	default judgment is sought is not in the			
	military service of the United States as defined in the Soldiers' and Sailors'			
	Civil Relief Act of 1940 Servicemembers Civil Relief Act of			
	<u>2003</u> , as amended.			

Civil Rules				
<u>Rule</u> <u>Number</u>	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
Number LR Cv 72	<ul> <li>LR Cv 72 AUTHORITY OF MAGISTRATE JUDGES IN CIVIL CASES *****</li> <li>(c) Appeals from Objections to Rulings on Nondispositive Matters.</li> <li>(1) Time for Appeal Objections; Failure to File. Any appeal from objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a nondispositive matter shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is <u>entered served on</u> the appellant. The appellant objecting party shall also order a transcript of any evidentiary hearing(s) before the magistrate judge within the same 14-day period. Failure to file specific objections and order the transcript in a timely manner constitutes waiver of the right to review by the district judge and the right to appeal the Court's decision.</li> <li>(2) Content of Appeal Objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling in a nondispositive matter shall consist of a notice of appeal-setting forth the basis <u>of the objection for the</u> appeal and <u>be accompanied by a</u> memorandum of law which complies with LR Cv 7.</li> <li>(3) Responses and Replies. A response to an appeal objection shall</li> </ul>	The Civil Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	<ul> <li>In light of the additional changes made to LR Cr 57.2 (see discussion below), The LRRC accepted the subcommittee's recommendation, and further modified the proposed change upon the Clerk's Office subsequent recommendation. The Clerk's Office proposed one additional change to LR Cv 72 (indicated by <u>double underline</u>) to keep it consistent with LR Cr 57.2. The language added is indicated by a <u>double-underline</u>.</li> <li>(c) Appeals from Objections to Rulings on Nondispositive Matters.</li> <li>(1) Time for Appeal Objections; Failure to File. Any appeal from objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a nondispositive matter referred under Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(a) shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is <u>entered served on the appellant</u>. The appellant objections and order the transcript of any evidentiary hearing(s) before the magistrate judge within the same 14-day period. Failure to file specific objections and order the transcript in a timely manner constitutes waiver of the right to review by the district judge and the right to appeal the Court's decision.</li> <li>(2) Content of Appeal Objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling in a nondispositive matter shall consist of</li> </ul>	UPON RECEIPT OF A COMMENT DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, THE JUDGES REPLACED THE WORD "ENTERED" IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF §(C)(1) WITH "SERVED." OTHERWISE, THE COURT APPROVED THE PROPOSED CHANGE.
	be served and filed within 14 days		nondispositive matter shan consist or	

<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action
	after the notice of appeal objection is served. The appellant objecting party may serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the Court, nothing further shall be filed in support of or in opposition response to an appeal of objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling. Any response and/or reply shall comply with LR Cv 7. *****		<ul> <li>a notice of appeal-setting forth the basis of the objection for the appeal and be accompanied by a memorandum of law which complies with LR Cv 7.</li> <li>(3) Responses and Replies. A response to an appeal objection shall be served and filed within 14 days after the notice of appeal objection is served. The appellant objecting party may serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the Court, nothing further shall be filed in support of or in opposition response to an appeal of objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling. Any response and/or reply shall comply with LR Cv 7.</li> </ul>	
Suggestion from the Bar	During the 2011-12 local rules review cycle, Stacey Nakasian, Esq. suggested that the Committee consider adopting a rule setting a Default Standard for Discovery, Including Discovery of Electronically Stored Information (ESI). The LRRC created an <i>ad hoc</i> committee to study and recommend an ESI proposal for consideration during the 2012-2013 LRRC cycle. The members of the ad hoc committee are: Jeffrey Techentin, Byron McMasters, Ranen Schechner, and Steven Richard. Mr. Richard will chair the ad hoc committee.	The <i>ad hoc</i> subcommittee reported that they would continue their work on ESI discovery during the 2013-2014 local rules review cycle.	N/A	N/A
Suggestion from the Bar	Members of the Civil Rules Subcommittee proposed that the Court adopt a rule for uniform definitions in discovery requests in civil cases similar to District of Massachusetts LR 26.5. (Uniform Definitions in Discovery Requests).	The Civil Rules Subcommittee endorsed the proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court.	PROPOSED CHANGE REJECTED. The full LRRC did not believe that the Court needed to impose uniform definitions on the bar.	N/A

Civil Rules	Civil Rules					
<u>Rule</u> Number	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	Court Action		
Suggestion from the Bar	Robert Fine, Esq. proposed that LR Cv 5.1 be further amended with the addition of a new section to allow for electronic service of discovery: The purpose of the amendment is to make it clear that electronic service of discovery is acceptable service. This would also facilitate delivery of the discovery requests to the client. (c) Electronic Service of Discovery: "Unless otherwise ordered, service of discovery under Civil Rules 33, 34 and 36 shall be effective by electronic mailing to the address listed for counsel at their ECF address." He added that the LRRC could expand this provision to include Rules 30 and 31 on depositions.	The Civil Rules Subcommittee recommended the following change on the basis of Mr. Fine's suggestion: LR Cv 26. Discovery (a) Discovery Conference. Unless the Court otherwise orders, within 14 days after the last answer or responsive pleading has been filed by all parties against whom claims have been asserted, the parties shall confer for the purposes specified by <u>Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)</u> ; provided, however, that if in lieu of an answer, a motion is filed that, if granted, would dispose of the entire case, the time for the parties' conference may be deferred until not later than 14 days after such answer or pleading is thereafter filed. (1) During the parties' conference, they shall, in addition to discussing the items identified in Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3), discuss whether they will consent to electronic service of requests and notices under Fed. R. Civ. P. 30, 31, 33, 34, and 36, as contemplated by Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(E).	PROPOSED CHANGE ACCEPTED.	COURT MODIFIED CHANGE BY STRIKING NEW SECTION (a)(1), AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW SECTION (E): (e) Service of Discovery by Electronic Means. Service of discovery by electronic means is permitted.		

<sup>\*</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.

Civil Rules Rule Suggestion Received\* **Subcommittee Recommendation Full Committee Action Court Action** Number N/A Suggestion During the 2011-2012 local rules review cycle, The Civil Rules Subcommittee The LRRC agreed to table the suggestion from the Girard Visconti, Esq and Marc DeSisto, Esq. recommended tabling this suggestion until for reconsideration during the 2013-14 Bar proposed that the Court adopt a rule requiring the Rhode Island Supreme Court addresses local rules review cycle. pro se litigants to certify that an attorney has not this issue. drafted the documents that they have filed with the Court. The LRRC chose to table the proposal for reconsideration during the 2012-2013 local rules review cycle.

Criminal Rules

Criminal Rules						
<u>Rule</u>	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	Full Committee Action	Court Action		
Number						
	<ul> <li>LR Cr 57.2 AUTHORITY OF MAGISTRATE JUDGES IN CRIMINAL CASES</li></ul>	Subcommittee Recommended that the amendment be tabled for further study because it seemed to be in conflict with certain procedures outlined in the United States Code requiring parties to file "motions" or "appeals" to a Magistrate Judge's ruling in bail and misdemeanor matters.         After receiving a revised proposal from the Clerk's Office in regard to the Criminal Rules Subcommittee's concerns regarding LR Cr 57.2, they endorsed the revised proposed change and recommended adoption by the Court. (The language added by the Clerk's Office is indicated by double underline.)         LR Cr 57.2 AUTHORITY OF MAGISTRATE JUDGES IN CRIMINAL CASES         (c)       Appeals from Objections to Rulings On Nondispositive Matters.         (1)       Time for Appeal Objections. Any appeal from objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a nondispositive matter referred under Fed. R. Crim. P. 59(a) shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is served on the appellant entered. The appellant objecting party shall also order a transcript of any evidentiary hearing(s) before the magistrate judge within the same 14-day period.	<b>REVISED PROPOSED CHANGE</b> ACCEPTED	UPON RECEIPT OF A COMMENT DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS, THE JUDGES REPLACED THE WORD "ENTERED" IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF §(C)(1) WITH "SERVED." OTHERWISE, THE COURT APPROVED THE PROPOSED CHANGE.		
	appellant objecting party may	(2) Content of Appeal Objections. Any				
	<u>objection is served</u> . The appellant <u>objecting party</u> may	(2) Content of Appeal Objections. Any				

<u>Rule</u>	Suggestion Received*	Subcommittee Recommendation	<b>Full Committee Action</b>	Court Action
Number	serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the Court, nothing further shall be filed in support of or in <u>response</u> opposition to an <del>appeal of</del> <u>objection to</u> a magistrate judge's order or ruling. Any response and/or reply shall comply with LR Cr 47.	<ul> <li>such appeal objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling in a nondispositive matter shall consist of a notice of appeal setting forth the basis of the objection for the appeal and be accompanied by a memorandum of law which complies with LR Cr 47.</li> <li>(3) Responses and Replies. A response to an appeal objection shall be served and filed within 14 days after the notice of appeal objecting party may serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter. Unless otherwise permitted or required by the Court, nothing further shall be filed in support of or in response opposition to an appeal of objection to a magistrate judge's order or ruling. Any response and/or reply shall comply with LR Cr 47.</li> <li>*COMMENT</li> <li>Under 18 U.S.C. §3145(a) and (b), a party may have a release or detention order issued by a magistrate judge reviewed by a district judge by filing a "motion" with the Court. However, since these orders relate to non-dispositive matters referred to a magistrate judge under Fed. R. Crim. P. 59(a), parties may file a reply 14 days thereafter in line with LR Cr 57.2(c).</li> </ul>		

Criminal Rules

 $<sup>\</sup>ast$  Unless otherwise indicated, the suggestion was made by the Court.



Good morning,

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendments to Local Rules for the U.S. District Court of Rhode Island that are currently out for comment. My concerns is specific to the proposed revisions to Civil Local Rule 72.

As proposed, Rule 72(c)(1) states, in part:

**Time for Objections; Failure to File.** Any objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a nondispositive matter referred under Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(a) shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is entered.

As proposed, the 14 day deadline to file and serve objection is triggered by the <u>entry</u> of the order or ruling. This directly conflicts with the provisions of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 72(a) which states, "A party may serve and file objections to the order within 14 days after being <u>served</u> with a copy." [Emphasis added].

In order to avoid confusion and any conflict with the Federal Rules, I propose that Local Rule 72(c)(1) be revised as follows:

**Time for Objections; Failure to File.** Any objection to an order or other ruling by a magistrate judge in a nondispositive matter referred under Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(a) shall be filed and served within 14 days after such order or ruling is entered served.

Furthermore, as written, Local Rule 72(c)(3) is ambiguous as to what event triggers the 14-day deadline for the reply to the response to the objections. As proposed that rule states:

A response to an objection shall be served and filed within 14 days after the objection is served. The objecting party may serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days thereafter.

By using the word "thereafter," it is uncertain as to what triggers tehe 14-day dadline for the reply. Is it the filing of the response? The service of the response? Some other event? In order to avoid any confusion, I suggest that Rule 72(c)(3) be revised as follows:

A response to an objection shall be served and filed within 14 days after the objection is served. The objecting party may serve and file a reply to the response within 14 days after service of the response thereafter.

Thank you for your time.

**Cheryl Siler, Esq.** Rules Department Manager Aderant