



# Clerk's Notes



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April 2013

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## I. CM/ECF Release 5.1

### A. Transfer of claim fee

All bankruptcy courts must install Release 5.1 by May 1, 2013 to accommodate the new \$25.00 transfer of claim filing fee, which takes effect on May 1. This court went live on Release 5.1 on April 20. The filing fee applies to each transfer. Filers will be able to pay the fee using Pay.gov.

Also taking effect on May 1 is the new fee for motions to reopen a Chapter 9 and Chapter 15 case. We have no Chapter 9 cases in this district, and only one Chapter 15 case.

### B. Mobile query

Release 5.1 includes a limited query of CM/ECF with mobile devices. The enhancement allows searches by case number or party name, and text searches on docket entries. Information from searches include attorney, party, deadlines, and docket entries. Users are required to provide a PACER login, as the usual PACER fees apply.

## II. Local Rules

The proposed amendments to the Local Rules were reviewed and approved recently by both the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States District Court.

The tentative date for adoption of the Rules by this Court is May 1, 2013, at which time notice will be sent to the bankruptcy bar through email. The notice

will include a link to the Rules on the court's website, which is [www.laeb.uscourts.gov](http://www.laeb.uscourts.gov).

Please keep in mind that the procedures in the Administrative Procedures Manual, which is a supplement to the Local Rules, took effect in May 2012. You can review the manual on the Court Procedures page of the court's website.

### III. General Order 2012-1 and Chapter 13 Model Plan

Please remember that the Court adopted General Order 2012-1 and began requiring the Chapter 13 model plan on December 1, 2012. This requirement applies to new plans, as well as amended and modified plans.

### IV. Motion Day Calendars

Motion day calendars are emailed to lawyers several days before the hearings, and include the matters that will be heard. Any matter appearing on the Section A calendars will be heard, and what is not lined through on the Section B calendars will be heard. Chambers receives many phone calls about hearing statuses prior to motion days, which impacts staff who are processing orders and handling other duties. Please refer to the calendars to check the status on matters that are scheduled to be heard.

### V. Hurricane Season – Advisory to Attorneys

Even though the beginning of hurricane season is over a month away, the Court and Clerk's office are already making early preparations to handle whatever comes our way. Just as you do, we monitor the progress of storms whose projected paths include the Gulf of Mexico. We will post regular notices on our website, and if there is a probability of landfall near southeast Louisiana, we will also broadcast information by email to your registered email accounts. Please make sure that your registered email address is kept current.

## VI. Notice of Pretrial and Trial Procedures (Section B)

Judge Brown has updated the Section B Procedures Manual, and replaced the Notice of Pretrial Procedures page with the new Notice of Pretrial and Trial Procedures. You may review the new notice in the Section B manual by clicking on Court Procedures, then Section B Procedures on the court's website.

## VII. Finally

Please visit the Court's website for additional information, and do not hesitate to call us for filing and other procedural information. As always, you should contact Brian Richoux at 504-589-7822 with particular concerns or suggestions.