

## MINUTES

### **United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine Local Rules Committee Meeting January 12, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Present:** Mr. Hull (Chair), Chief Judge Cary, Mr. Wholly, Ms. Doil, Mr. Sleeper, Mr. Dudley, Mr. Crosman, Mr. Molleur, Mr. Anderson, and Ms. Bigley

**Observers:** Ms. Dye.

**Absent:** Ms. Economy, Mr. Morrell

1. **Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting.** With a minor change, the minutes from the November 18, 2020 meeting were approved and will be posted to the website.
2. **Chair Announcements.** Mr. Hull announced that the Maine State Bar Association “Bankruptcy Law Update 2020: Virtual Series” was well attended and there was tremendous feedback. Thanks to everyone in making that a successful event.
3. **Clerk’s Office Announcements/Updates.** Ms. Bigley introduced herself to the committee and reported that the Clerk’s office staff continues to work predominantly remotely with a few people coming into the office each day. Hearings are being held by Zoom when requested. Judge Cary welcomed Ms. Bigley and wished her a long tenure with the Bankruptcy Court.
4. **Review of Local Rules for Consistency/Cross-References/Updating.** The draft has been sent to Ms. Doil and Mr. Molleur. The subcommittee will get together and decide on how to move forward.
5. **Pretrial Process and Forms.** The Maine State Bar Association “Bankruptcy Law Update 2020: Virtual Series” included a panel with Mr. Hull, Judge Fagone and an e-discovery expert from Verrill Dana, Jen Harrell. The panel previewed the new forms and rules the committee is considering and solicited early feedback. This item will remain on the agenda for continued consideration from the committee with the plan to vote on adoption at the end of the next meeting on March 9, 2021. This item will remain on the agenda
6. **Compliance with Administrative Procedure Regarding Electronic Signatures.** The committee had significant discussion over various approaches to the electronic signature requirements in this District, including whether any changes should be implemented by a local rule, administrative procedure, or standing order. The committee agreed that Ms. Doil and Mr. Dudley will provide draft proposed standing orders to the Court for consideration. This item will remain on the agenda to confirm draft proposed standing orders were submitted.
7. **Rule 3002.1 – Notice Relating to Claims Secured by Security Interest in Debtor’s Principal Residence – Subcommittee Formation.** Mr. Sleeper reported that the

subcommittee is still working on language for this change. This item will remain on the agenda.

8. **Conforming Amendment to Local Rule 2002.** Mr. Hull reported that Ms. Dye and he will be looking a certain provision of Local Rule 2002-1(f) with respect to changes that went into effect on December 1, 2020. This item will remain on the agenda for action at the next meeting on March 9, 2021.
9. **New Business/Matters/Issues** – No new business was brought up.
10. **Scheduling Next Meeting.** March 9, 2021 at 10:00 am