

MINUTES

United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine Local Rules Committee Meeting July 7, 2020

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

Absent: Ms. Dye (on behalf of Judge Fagone).

1. **Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting.**

With no comments and all in favor of approval, the minutes for the May 12, 2020 meeting were approved. They will be posted to the Court's website.

2. **Chair Announcements.**

- Meetings will be recorded and saved locally to help create minutes.
- Well attended brown bag luncheon.

3. **Clerk's Office Announcements/Updates.**

- Fourth General Order has been issued.
- Bangor evidence presentation system is operational and the first training session is scheduled for July 7, 2020.
- The process of selecting a new Clerk of Court is underway.
- Case filings have been comparable to last year through June of 2020.

4. **Review of Local Rules for Consistency/Cross-References/Updating.** (Judge Cary)

- Local Rules review is still in progress.

5. **Compliance with Administrative Order Regarding Electronic Signatures** (Mr. Morrell)

The committee has engaged in general discussions about the perceived shift outside of this District from "wet" signature requirements. Judge Cary gathered orders from other districts as to how they are handling this issue to inform further thinking. A subcommittee of Mr. Morrell, Mr. Molleur and Ms. Economy was formed with the task to review the issues and report out to the committee at the next meeting.

6. **Rule 3002.1 – Notice Relating to Claims Secured by Security Interest in Debtor's Principal Residence – Subcommittee Formation** (Mr. Hull)

Judge Brown in Vermont formed a committee to review a potential change to their Local Rule 3002.-1. A member of that committee then contacted our committee about reviewing

and implementing similar changes. Mr. Hull will circulate a background memo that explains the issue addressed and the solution adopted in Vermont. A subcommittee of Ms. Doil, Mr. Sleeper and Mr. Wholly was formed to research this issue and report out to the committee at the next meeting.

7. **New Business/Matters/Issues**

A few new rules will be changing on December 1, 2020. Mr. Hull will add those to the next agenda with a summary of changes attached.

The changes to the Chapter 13 plan have been received and decisions will be coming shortly.

8. **Scheduling Next Meeting.**

September 22, 2020 at 10:00 am using ZOOM.