



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2009-53

**IN RE: ASSIGNMENT OF NEWLY FILED CASES RELATED
TO A MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION**

Southern District of Florida Local Rule 3.4(A) requires all cases to "...be assigned on a blind random basis so that the District workload is fairly and equally distributed among the active Judges...". The Rule also provides that "...in the interest of justice and expediency, the Court may modify the assignments made to active and senior Judges." Currently, all new cases filed directly in the Southern District of Florida that relate to a Multidistrict Litigation ("MDL") are assigned by the Clerk's Office on a blind random basis rather than directly to the District Judge assigned to the lead MDL case. The Court finds this method of assignment lacks expediency as District Judges receiving related MDL cases must then transfer such cases to the District Judge assigned to the lead MDL case. Accordingly, it is hereby

ORDERED that in the interest of justice and expediency, all new MDL related cases filed directly in the Southern District of Florida must include a civil cover sheet indicating the lead MDL case and must be accompanied by a Notice of Related or Similar Action pursuant to Local Rule 3.8 that indicates the lead MDL case. It is further

ORDERED that the Clerk's Office shall directly assign such newly-filed MDL related cases to the District Judge assigned to the lead MDL case. This Order does not apply to MDL cases outside

of this District. Newly-filed cases relating to an MDL case in another District will continue to be assigned on a blind random basis.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Miami, Miami-Dade County, Florida, this 10th
day of November 2009.


FEDERICO A. MORENO
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

c: Honorable Joel F. Dubina, Chief Judge, Eleventh Circuit
All Southern District and Magistrate Judges
James Gerstenlauer, Circuit Executive, Eleventh Circuit
Jeffrey H. Sloman, Acting United States Attorney
Kathleen Williams, Federal Public Defender
Steven M. Larimore, Court Administrator· Clerk of Court
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