



# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT District of Minnesota

Richard D. Sletten, Clerk

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Suite 202  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
(612) 664-5000

Gerald W. Heaney Federal Building  
and U.S. Courthouse and Customhouse  
515 West First Street  
Suite 417  
Duluth, MN 55802  
(218) 529-3500

Edward J. Devitt U.S. Courthouse  
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118 South Mill Street  
Suite 212  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537  
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## PUBLIC NOTICE

**Date: May 14, 2014**  
**Contact: Tricia Pepin**  
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### **FEDERAL COURT LOCAL RULE AMENDMENTS** **Effective May 14, 2014**

The United States District Court for the District of Minnesota has approved amendments to the Court's Local Rules of practice, effective May 13, 2014. The rule changes affect Local Rules 16.5, 83.5, and 83.6. On March 13, 2014, the Court notified the public of the proposed amendments to these rules and provided an opportunity for public comment. After consideration of the public's comments and the recommendations of the Court's Federal Practice Committee, chaired by Becky Thorson, the Court approved the amendments.

Provided below is a brief summary of the amendments. To see the amended rules, visit the Court's website at [www.mnd.uscourts.gov](http://www.mnd.uscourts.gov), or contact the Office of the Clerk of Court in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth, or Fergus Falls.

#### ***LR 16.5 Alternative Dispute Resolution and Mediated Settlement Conference***

The amendment provides that the court will designate an administrator of the court's alternative dispute resolution program by administrative order, rather than by local rule.

#### ***LR 83.5 Bar Admission***

The amendment specifies that attorneys may appear or participate in a trial or hearing as permitted under Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(f).

### *LR 83.6 Attorney Discipline*

The amendments to LR 83.6 reorganize and clarify many of the current rule's provisions. The amendments specify the rights of an attorney who is the subject of court-initiated disciplinary proceedings or who seeks reinstatement to the court's bar. The amendments also more clearly explain the role of investigatory and disciplinary counsel in disciplinary and reinstatement proceedings. In addition, the amendments provide new authority to the chief judge to temporarily suspend or restrict an attorney's right to practice when the chief judge finds probable cause to believe that the attorney has committed misconduct and finds that the attorney poses an immediate threat of serious harm to the public, to any person, or to the administration of justice.

Please note that proposed new Local Rule 49.1, Filing Documents under Seal in Criminal Cases, which was posted for public comment on March 13, 2014, remains under the consideration of the Court and the Federal Practice Committee.

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Richard D. Sletten  
Clerk, U.S. District Court  
District of Minnesota