



# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT District of Minnesota

John R. Tunheim, Chief Judge  
Richard D. Sletten, Clerk

Warren E. Burger Federal  
Building and U.S. Courthouse  
316 North Robert Street  
Suite 100  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(651) 848-1100

U.S. Courthouse  
300 South Fourth Street  
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  
and Federal Building  
118 South Mill Street  
Suite 212  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537  
(218) 739-5758

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**Date: November 13, 2015**  
**Contact: Tricia Pepin**  
**(612) 664-5129**

### LOCAL RULE AMENDMENTS Effective, December 1, 2015

The United States District Court for the District of Minnesota has approved amendments to the Court's Local Rules. On September 18, 2015, the Court notified the public of proposed amendments to LR 7.2, Procedures in Social Security Cases, a new Social Security Case Assignment Form, LR 37.1, Form of Discovery Motions, LR Form 3, and LR Form 4. After consideration of the public's comments and the recommendations of the Court's Federal Practice Committee, chaired by Doug Peterson, the Court approved the amendments. The amendments will take effect on Tuesday, December 1, 2015.

Provided below is a brief summary of the amendments. To view the amendments in full, 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 7.2 Procedures in Social Security Cases and New Social Security Case Assignment Form***

The amendments revise subsection (a) to require that each party submit a Social Security Case Assignment Form, through which each party will inform the Court whether he or she consents to disposition of the case by the assigned magistrate judge. The Social Security Case Assignment Form must be submitted before the date on which the answer is due. In order to protect the voluntariness of each party's consent, the Social Security Case Assignment Form must be submitted in paper to the Clerk's Office. The Form will not be filed in ECF.

### ***LR 37.1 Form of Discovery Motions***

The amendments add the required information that a moving party must provide to make a motion relating to a failure to preserve electronically stored information. The amendments are intended to be consistent with the December 1, 2015 amendments to Fed. R. Civ. P. 37. The rule has also been renumbered and reorganized to make it easier to read and understand.

### ***LR Forms 3-4, Rule 26(f) Report and Proposed Scheduling Order***

The amendments to Forms 3 and 4 are intended to be consistent with the December 1, 2015 amendments to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(3) and 26(f). The proposed changes may be found in Form 3, subsection (e), and Form 4, subsection (h). The amendments clarify the requirement for parties to discuss the discovery of electronically stored information and ask the parties to disclose any agreements reached under Fed. R. Evid. 502. The amendments also add a new subsection to Form 3, subsection (e)(4) and Form 4, subsection (h)(6), that prompts the parties to discuss whether the judge should require an informal conference before filing a discovery motion.

\* \* \* \*