

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

JUN 14 2024

LAURA A. AUSTIN, CLERK
BY:  DEPUTY CLERK

IN THE MATTER OF:)
RANDOM ASSIGNMENT OF)
CIVIL CASES SEEKING A)
REMEDY WITH IMPLICATIONS)
BEYOND THE PARTIES)

STANDING ORDER 2024-6

The Judicial Conference of the United States recently approved a policy to encourage the random assignment of civil cases where the remedy sought seeks to bar or mandate the enforcement of state or federal law and has implications beyond the parties and the local community. Pursuant to Judicial Conference policy and the authority conferred by 28 U.S.C. § 137, it is **ORDERED** as follows:

1. District-wide random assignment of cases shall apply to the following cases:
 - a. Civil actions seeking to bar or mandate statewide enforcement of a state law, including a rule, regulation, policy, or order of the executive branch or a state agency, whether by declaratory judgment and/or any form of injunctive relief; and
 - b. Civil actions seeking to bar or mandate nationwide enforcement of a federal law, including a rule, regulation, policy, or order of the executive branch or a federal agency, whether by declaratory judgment and/or any form of injunctive relief.
2. If the above-described relief is sought when the case is opened, the filer shall note on the Civil Cover Sheet (Form JS-44) in section "VI. CAUSE OF ACTION" that the remedy sought seeks to bar or mandate statewide or nationwide enforcement of a state or federal law and has implications beyond the parties before the Court.

3. If the above-described relief is sought after the case is opened, either in an amended pleading or by motion, the party seeking relief shall file a separate motion in compliance with the Local Rules, advising the Court that the case qualifies under this Standing Order for district-wide random assignment.
4. Thereupon, the District Judge to whom the case is assigned may enter an Order instructing the Clerk of Court to transfer the case to a randomly assigned District Judge without regard to Court Division. As appropriate, the newly assigned District Judge will be responsible for referral to a Magistrate Judge.
5. This Order does not apply to pro se prisoner cases covered by Standing Order 2023-17.

It is so **ORDERED**.

Enter: This 14th day of June, 2024



Michael F. Urbanski
Chief United States District Judge