

United States Bankruptcy Court

WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

CHAMBERS OF
SCOTT W. DALES
BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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July 22, 2014

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Bar:

Now that we have welcomed the Hon. James W. Boyd and the Hon. John T. Gregg to the bench, many of you are wondering how the court will divide up its business. I am writing to let you know how we intend to proceed.

Judge Boyd will continue to handle the Grand Rapids docket that the Hon. James D. Gregg previously handled, and will handle the court's Traverse City docket (except for matters with respect to which his prior relationships or conflicts require recusal).

Judge John Gregg will handle the Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo dockets over which the Hon. Jeffrey R. Hughes formerly presided (again, except for matters with respect to which his prior relationships require recusal). In addition, he will handle the court's Lansing docket.

For my part, I will continue to handle my Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Marquette dockets. I will also handle Judge Boyd's Traverse City "conflict" cases. For conflict matters on non-Traverse City dockets, we will reassign those among ourselves depending on case load in accordance with our usual practices.

We intend to live with this arrangement for approximately a year, at which point the three judges will discuss whether the court's existing division of labor and triennial rotation makes sense, or whether there are ways we could improve it. Certainly, if you have any suggestions, I am all ears.

On behalf of the court's staff and my new colleagues, we thank you for your support during the court's remarkable transition over the last few months. With luck, and your continued support, we will be able to deliver the high level of service you have come to expect and which you and your clients deserve.

Very truly yours,



Scott W. Dales
Chief Judge