

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

In re:

DEBTORS WHO FILE A SUBSEQUENT
BANKRUPTCY CHAPTER 11, 12 OR 13
CASE WITHIN TWO YEARS OF A
PRIOR BANKRUPTCY CASE FILING,

Administrative Order No. 2005-1

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Michigan has previously adopted a policy whereby a debtor (or joint debtors) who files for bankruptcy relief, and then files a subsequent chapter 11, 12 or 13 case, shall have the same judge hear both cases. However, because of the adoption of new electronic case filing procedures, all bankruptcy cases, including those involving repeat filers, are now automatically assigned by blind computer draw, to the judges who hold court in a particular city. After full discussion at a court administration meeting, the judges unanimously determined to modify the blind assignment of cases by instructing the Clerk of the Court, and the deputy clerks, to reassign to the initial judge subsequent Chapter 11, 12 or 13 cases that are filed by the same debtor (or joint debtors). The judges agreed that this Administrative Order should be entered and published on the Website of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Michigan.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that, in those instances when a debtor (or joint debtors) has filed a bankruptcy case which has been assigned to a particular judge, and the debtor (or joint debtors) subsequently files another Chapter 11, 12 or 13 case within two (2) years of closing of the prior case, the Clerk of the Court, or a deputy clerk, shall immediately reassign the subsequent case to the bankruptcy judge

who was assigned to preside over the prior bankruptcy case.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, notwithstanding the above general provision, the Clerk of the Court, or a deputy clerk, shall not reassign a subsequently filed Chapter 11, 12 or 13 case involving a debtor (or joint debtors) in the following circumstances:

1. In an instance when the prior judge was assigned to a particular city but is no longer responsible for holding court in that city, i.e., Lansing, Kalamazoo, Traverse City or Marquette; or

2. When the current judge, who is handling a subsequently filed Chapter 11, 12 or 13 case, advises the Clerk of the Court, in writing, that the current judge desires to continue to preside over the subsequent case.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Administrative Order shall be posted at the Grand Rapids and Marquette offices of the Clerk of the Court, posted outside of each courtroom door in all geographical locations that court is now held, and published on the Website maintained by the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Michigan.

Dated: January 14, 2005
at Grand Rapids, Michigan

/s/ _____
Honorable James D. Gregg
Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge