### IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

## IN RE: ORDER AMENDING LOCAL RULE 1073-1

# GENERAL ORDER NO. 2024-1

For good cause shown, after approval from the AAG subcommittee, and pending revision of this Court's local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that Local Rule 1073-1 is amended to read:

### Rule 1073-1. Assignment of Cases

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**E. Transfer.** Bankruptcy cases and proceedings may be transferred from one division to another division or from the judge to whom the matter was originally assigned to any other judge of this Court. Transfer of a case or proceeding may be granted sua sponte by the Chief Judge or upon motion of any party or of the transferor judge, for good cause appearing, and with the consent of the transferee judge. Cause to transfer may include, but is not limited to, convenience of the parties or witnesses, and in the interest of justice; convenience of counsel alone is not sufficient cause. A motion to transfer must be served on all creditors and other parties in interest.

H. Platte County. Cases filed for Platte County residents in the St. Joseph Division will be automatically transferred to Kansas City on debtor's motion if a motion is filed with the petition, served on the U.S. Trustee, and states that debtor resides in Platte City or Platte County south of Missouri Route 92. A motion for transfer not meeting the above criteria must be served on all creditors and other parties in interest. If the debtor fails to file the motion to transfer with the petition, such motion will not be considered prior to the § 341 meeting of creditors.

**I. Stone County.** Cases filed for Stone County residents in the Southwestern Division will be automatically transferred to the Southern Division on debtor's motion if a motion is filed with the petition, served on the U.S. Trustee, and states that debtor resides in Stone County and resides geographically closer to Springfield than Carthage. A motion for transfer not meeting the above criteria must be served on all creditors and other parties in interest. If the debtor fails to file the motion to transfer with the petition, such motion will not be considered prior to the § 341 meeting of creditors.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that General Order 2023-1 is vacated and its provisions amending Local Rule 1073-1 are incorporated herein, as set forth below, effective from January 5, 2024, forward for all new cases.

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**B.** Assignment. Cases shall be assigned to judges based on the county in which debtor's domicile, residence, principal place of business, or principal assets were located for the greater part of the 180-day period preceding commencement of the case as follows:

**1. Central Division (Judge Norton)**: Benton, Boone, Callaway, Camden, Cole, Cooper, Hickory, Howard, Miller, Moniteau, Morgan, Osage, and Pettis;

**2. Southern Division (Judge Fenimore**): Cedar, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Douglas, Greene, Howell, Laclede, Oregon, Ozark, Polk, Pulaski, Taney, Texas, Webster, and Wright;

**3. Southwestern Division (Judge Fenimore**): Barry, Barton, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, Stone, and Vernon;

**4. St. Joseph Division (Judge Norton**): Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Caldwell, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Holt, Livingston, Mercer, Nodaway, Platte, Putnam, Sullivan, and Worth; and

**5. Western Division (Random Assignment)**: Bates, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Henry, Jackson, Johnson, Lafayette, Ray, Saint Clair, and Saline shall be randomly assigned to all judges presiding in this Court.

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IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: 5/21/2024

<u>/s/ Brian T. Fenimore</u> Chief Bankruptcy Judge

<u>/s/ Cynthia A. Norton</u> Bankruptcy Judge