

April 27, 2026

NOTICE

**TO: THE PUBLIC AND MEMBERS OF THE PRACTICING BAR FOR THE
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF KENTUCKY**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2071, Rule 83 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 57 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky hereby give public notice of the following:

The Joint Local Rules Commission for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky has recommended, and the District Court has authorized for release for a period of public comment through July 31, 2026, the adoption and revision of certain Joint Local Rules of Civil Practice and Joint Local Rules of Criminal Practice. Unless otherwise indicated, as seen in this Notice, underlined text is added and ~~struck~~ text is deleted in rules to be amended. The proposed new rules and revisions are as follows:

- A. LR 5.2 Format of Pleadings, Written Motions, and Other Papers** – will be amended as follows in order to add an English language filing requirement (LCrR 49.2 remains under review by the Commission):

LR 5.2 Format of Pleadings, Written Motions, and Other Papers

(a) All pleadings, written motions, and other papers filed with the Court must be in size 8½ x 11 inch page format with margins of at least one inch on all sides, with text double spaced (except for appropriate block quotes, headings, and footnotes), in at least 12-point proportionately-spaced font.

(b) Absent an order of the court upon a showing of good cause, all pleadings, written motions, and other documents filed with the Court must be in the English language unless translations are furnished. Any English translation shall include a certification that the translation is accurate. Partial translations are acceptable if the party filing the document believes that the portion translated is sufficient to address the issues being litigated. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, within the greater of either (i) 14 days after the filing of the translated document or (ii) the time permitted under these rules or the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to respond to the filing containing the translation, any opposing party or nonparty may file objections to the translation or to the partial nature of the translation, or may file additional partial or complete translations of the document as it believes necessary.

- B. LR 3.1(a), (b), and LCrR 18.1(a), (b) Jury Divisions** – will be amended to reflect recent changes by the districts:

LR 3.1 Jury Divisions

(a) United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky is divided into the following jury divisions with juries drawn from the counties within each docket:

(1) *Northern*. The Northern Division is divided into two dockets:

(A) Ashland. The following counties are in the Ashland Docket: Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Greenup, Johnson, Lawrence, Lewis, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan, and Rowan.

(B) Covington. The following counties are in the Covington Docket: Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Mason, Pendleton, and Robertson.

(2) *Central*. The Central Division is divided into two dockets:

(A) Frankfort. The following counties are in the Frankfort Docket: Anderson, Carroll, Franklin, Henry, Owen, Shelby, and Trimble.

(B) Lexington. The following counties are in the Lexington Docket: Bath, Bourbon, Boyle, Breathitt, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Fleming, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lee, Lincoln, Madison, Menifee, Mercer, Montgomery, Nicholas, Powell, Scott, Wolfe, and Woodford.

(3) *Southern*. The Southern Division ~~consists of one docketis divided into two dockets:~~

(A) London. The following counties are in the London Docket: Bell, Clay, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Leslie, Letcher, McCreary, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Wayne, and Whitley.

~~(B) Pikeville. The following counties are in the Pikeville Docket: Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, and Pike.~~

(b) United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky. The United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky is divided into the following jury divisions:

(1) *Louisville*. The following counties are in the Louisville Division: ~~Breckinridge~~, Bullitt, Hardin, Jefferson, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Spencer, and Washington.

(2) *Bowling Green*. The following counties are in the Bowling Green Division: Adair, Allen, Barren, Butler, Casey, Clinton, Cumberland, Edmonson, Green, Hart, Logan, Metcalf, Monroe, Russell, Simpson, Taylor, Todd, and Warren.

(3) *Owensboro*. The following counties are in the Owensboro Division: Breckinridge, Daviess, Grayson, Hancock, Henderson, Hopkins, McLean, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Union, and Webster.

(4) *Paducah*. The following counties are in the Paducah Division: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Livingston, Lyon, McCracken, Marshall, and Trigg.

(c) Assignment to a Division. Jury division assignments may be changed by rule or by Court order.

LCrR 18.1 Jury Divisions

(a) United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky. The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky is divided into the following jury divisions with juries drawn from the counties within each docket:

(1) *Northern*. The Northern Division is divided into two dockets:

(A) Ashland. The following counties are in the Ashland Docket: Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Greenup, Johnson, Lawrence, Lewis, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan, and Rowan.

(B) Covington. The following counties are in the Covington Docket: Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Mason, Pendleton, and Robertson.

(2) *Central*. The Central Division is divided into two dockets:

(A) Frankfort. The following counties are in the Frankfort Docket: Anderson, Carroll, Franklin, Henry, Owen, Shelby, and Trimble.

(B) Lexington. The following counties are in the Lexington Docket: Bath, Bourbon, Boyle, Breathitt, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Fleming, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lee, Lincoln, Madison, Menifee, Mercer, Montgomery, Nicholas, Powell, Scott, Wolfe, and Woodford.

(3) *Southern*. The Southern Division ~~consists of one docketis divided into two dockets:~~

(A) London. The following counties are in the London Docket: Bell, Clay, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Leslie, Letcher, McCreary, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Wayne, and Whitley.

~~(B) Pikeville. The following counties are in the Pikeville Docket: Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, and Pike.~~

(b) United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky. The United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky is divided into the following jury divisions:

(1) *Louisville*. The following counties are in the Louisville Division: Breckinridge, Bullitt, Hardin, Jefferson, Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Spencer, and Washington.

(2) *Bowling Green*. The following counties are in the Bowling Green Division: Adair, Allen, Barren, Butler, Casey, Clinton, Cumberland, Edmonson, Green, Hart, Logan, Metcalf, Monroe, Russell, Simpson, Taylor, Todd, and Warren.

(3) *Owensboro*. The following counties are in the Owensboro Division: Breckinridge, Daviess, Grayson, Hancock, Henderson, Hopkins, McLean, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Union, and Webster.

(4) *Paducah*. The following counties are in the Paducah Division: Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Livingston, Lyon, McCracken, Marshall, and Trigg.

(c) Assignment to a Division. Jury division assignments may be changed by rule or by Court order.

- C. **LR 6.2 and LCrR 45.2 Computation of Time** – will be amended as follows to add clarity and consistency with authority:

LR 6.2 Computation of Time—Date Certain
LCrR 45.2 Computation of Time—Date Certain

~~When any period of time set by Order of the Court or otherwise ends on a date certain and that date certain falls upon a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, the period of time continues to run until the end of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.~~

When the Local Rules or a Court order permits a party to act within a period of time stated in days or a longer unit of time and the last day of the period is a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the time period continues to run until the following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. If an order of the Court sets a specific calendar date by which a party must act, the date is not extended even if it falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

- D. **LR 5.3(a) Pro Se Actions** – will be amended as follows to make non-substantive edits and to add a court-supplied form that should be used by pro se parties:

LR 5.3 Pro Se Actions.

(a) **Generally.** The following papers should be written on court-supplied forms, signed and verified:

- (1) Pro se writ of habeas corpus filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2254; ~~and~~
- (2) Pro se motions attacking a conviction or sentence filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2255-;:
- (3) Pro se civil rights complaints filed under 42 U.S.C. § 1983; ~~and~~
- (4) Pro se civil rights complaints filed under the authority of Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents, 403 U.S. 388 (1971)-; ~~and~~
- (5) Pro se writ of habeas corpus filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2241.

- E. **LR 83.13(a), Advance Payment of Fees** – will be amended as follows to add clarity concerning the scope of the Local Rule:

LR 83.13 Advance Payment of Fees

(a) **Generally.** The Clerk, the United States Marshal Service, or any other officer of the Court entitled to collect fees for services rendered may require fees to be paid in advance. This rule includes fees for filing cases, including but not limited to actions filed under 28 U.S.C. § 2241.

F. LR 55.2(a) and LCrR 83.10(a), Exhibits – will be amended as follows to simplify the rules and to conform to existing practice:

LR 83.10 Exhibits

Unless the Court orders otherwise, exhibits must be managed as follows:

(a) Method of Designation. All exhibits and materials to be used during a civil trial must be marked for identification purposes with labels obtained from the Clerk.

- (1) Joint exhibits (~~JX~~) must be numbered using white labels;
- (2) Plaintiff's exhibits (~~PX~~) must be numbered using pink labels;
- (3) Defendant's exhibits (~~DX~~) must be numbered using blue labels;
- (4) Third-party exhibits (~~TPX~~) must be numbered using green labels;
- (5) If the proceeding involves multiple plaintiffs or multiple defendants, the identification assigned to each exhibit must contain the individual party's surname or corporate name.

LCrR 55.2 Exhibits

Unless the Court orders otherwise, exhibits must be managed as follows:

(a) Method of Designation. All exhibits and materials to be used during a criminal trial must be marked for identification purposes with labels obtained from the Clerk.

- (1) Joint exhibits (~~JX~~) must be numbered using white labels;
- (2) ~~Plaintiff's~~Government's exhibits (~~PX~~) must be numbered using ~~pink~~yellow labels;
- (3) Defendant's exhibits (~~DX~~) must be numbered using blue labels;
- (4) Third-party exhibits (~~TPX~~) must be numbered using green labels;
- (5) If the proceeding involves multiple ~~plaintiffs~~ or multiple defendants, the identification assigned to each exhibit must contain the individual party's surname or corporate name.

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Comments concerning the proposed rule amendments are welcome. Comments must be submitted in writing or via email on or before July 31, 2026, and should be sent to:

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