

FILED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

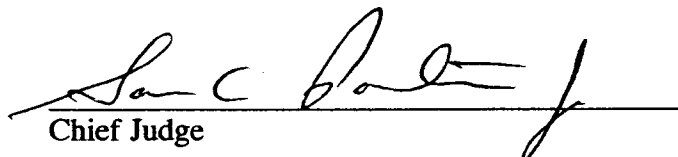
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STANDING ORDER

U.S. DISTRICT COURT
N.D. OF ALABAMA

Effective July 15, 1996, the appearance in any civil case pending in this court by any counsel in addition to, or in substitution of, a previously-appearing counsel for the same party shall, if such appearance would or might constitute grounds for recusal or disqualification of the judge to whom the case is assigned (which did not already exist by reason of the identity of the previously-appearing counsel), be ineffective until such time that a motion, seeking leave to add or substitute such new counsel, is approved by a district judge or magistrate judge of this court. Ordinarily, such a motion shall be referred automatically and at random to a magistrate judge of this court for prompt hearing and decision. There shall be a strong, but rebuttable, presumption that the reason for such a proposed addition or substitution of counsel is to cause recusal or disqualification of the assigned judge; and the judge to whom such motion is referred may also consider the disruptive effect, if any, reassignment of the case to another judge would have upon the court and other parties.

Ordered for the court this the 12^c day of July, 1996.


Chief Judge