



DISTRICT OF MONTANA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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Welcome U.S. District Court Judges Brian Morris & Susan Watters



The District of Montana is pleased to welcome two new United States district judges and their staffs to the court family. United States District Judge Susan P. Watters handles civil and criminal matters in the Billings Division. Her chambers can be reached at 406-247-2350. United States District Judge Brian Morris handles civil and criminal matters in the Great Falls Division. His chambers can be reached at 406-727-8877.



SIGNATURE REMINDER - Affidavits & Declarations

Under L.R. 11.1(d) and 11.2, a registered user may use the electronic "/s/" signature form only when signing a document as the filer or when signing a document requiring multiple signatures. All affidavits and declarations must be signed by hand.

ATTENTION: CJA Panel Attorneys

In order to ease the process of preparing transcripts, the Court requests that when filing a Transcript Designation form electronically, that you also attach a completed CJA 24 form bearing your electronic signature in box number 15. Upon receipt of the CJA 24 form, the court reporter will take the necessary steps to obtain the signature of the presiding judge, and process the transcript accordingly.

Revised Local Rules of Procedure

Proposed changes to the Local Rules will take effect shortly. Opportunity to submit comments to LocalRules@mtd.uscourts.gov closes Friday, January 24, at 5:00 p.m. After the Court adopts any proposed changes, the New Rules and their effective date will be posted on the district's website.

Among the proposals: preliminary pretrial statements must identify witnesses with discoverable information and describe applicable insurance agreements; parties must prepare and plaintiff file a Statement of Stipulated Facts along with pretrial statements and discovery plan; a party opposing summary judgment must respond verbatim to the moving party's statement of undisputed facts; patent, trademark, and copyright litigators must file applicable new forms; and when you settle a case, you must file a notice to let the court know. There are others! Check the website for a complete set of the proposed amendments.

New Spanish Interpreter/Translator

Lupe Hilliard is available as an interpreter and translator for the Spanish language. Lupe has a certification in Spanish from *The Agnese Haury Institute for Court Interpretation*. Lupe can be reached by phone at 406-549-4509 or by e-mail at mason101810@gmail.com.

Clerk of Court Divisional Offices

Billings: 247-7000 Great Falls: 727-1922 Butte: 497-1279 Helena: 441-1355 Missoula: 542-7260

District of Montana Website: www.mtd.uscourts.gov

Questions about filing electronically?

CM/ECF Electronic Learning Modules (ELMs) are available at: <http://www.mtd.uscourts.gov/efiling.html#training>

CM/ECF Helpdesk: 866-463-4052