



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARGO K. BRODIE
Chief Judge, E.D.N.Y.

LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN
Chief Judge, S.D.N.Y.

JOINT NOTICE TO THE BAR

July 8, 2024

CONTACT

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**The Eastern and Southern Districts of New York
Invite Public Comment on Proposed Changes to
the Courts' Joint Local Rules**

In accordance with Rule 83(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 57(a) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Boards of Judges of the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York invite the public to comment on proposed changes to their Joint Local Rules.

The proposed amendments, which resulted from the work of a committee of representatives from both courts and the bar in both districts, are made in reference to the Joint Local Rules in effect as of July 1, 2024, which are available at:

<https://www.nyed.uscourts.gov/local-rules-documents-and-administrative-orders>

<https://nysd.uscourts.gov/rules>

The proposed amendments include:

- (1) a provision authorizing limited-scope representation for *pro se* litigants in civil cases (**amended Local Civil Rule 1.4**);
- (2) the replacement of page limits with word limits for all briefs filed in civil cases (**amended Local Civil Rules 6.3, 7.1, & 11.1**);
- (3) a provision permitting both districts to adopt policies governing the possession and use of electronic equipment (**amended Local Civil Rule 1.8**);

- (4) a new criminal rule establishing default deadlines for expert witness disclosures (**new Local Criminal Rule 16.2**);
- (5) a new criminal rule governing *pro se* submissions by represented defendants in criminal cases (**new Local Criminal Rule 49.2**); and
- (6) new local social security rules, to codify existing administrative and standing orders in both districts addressed to such cases (**new Local Supplemental Social Security Rules**).

Each proposal is followed by a committee note providing relevant context for the change. (As in the current Joint Local Rules, notes for all rules will be consolidated in an Appendix.)

The proposed changes are available at <https://nysd.uscourts.gov/rules/proposed-amendments>. Where a proposed change contemplates amending an existing rule, the proposal is followed immediately by a redline reflecting the changes from the existing rule(s). Otherwise, a redline is not supplied.

There is a 90-day period during which comments may be provided, which begins today and closes on October 6, 2024. Comments should be submitted only once. A comment submitted through either court's website or in letter form will be considered by both courts.

Comments submitted electronically are preferred, and may be submitted through a form available on either court's website at the following links:

<https://www.nyed.uscourts.gov/proposed-amendments>

<https://nysd.uscourts.gov/rules/proposed-amendments>

Alternatively, written comments may be submitted in letter form to:

Robert Rogers
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United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse
500 Pearl Street
New York, New York 10007-1312

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