

FILED

April 13, 2026

**KAREN MITCHELL
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT
COURT**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Special Order No. 2-102

1. The District Judges of this Court have considered and adopted the attached amendments to the local civil and criminal rules of this Court. The amendments revise LR 83.10(a) and (b) and add a new LR 83.10(c), and revise LCrR 57.10(a) and (b) and add a new LCrR 57.10(c).
2. Unless modified after receipt of public comment, the amended rule shall take effect on September 1, 2026 and shall apply to all proceedings in civil and criminal actions thereafter commenced and, insofar as just and practicable, all civil and criminal actions then pending.
3. Any persons who desire to comment on the amended rules may do so by submitting written comments to:

Clerk of Court
United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas
Attention: 2026 Rules Revision Comments
1100 Commerce Street, Room 1452
Dallas, Texas 75242-1495

The deadline by which the Clerk must receive comments is June 1, 2026.

4. The Clerk of Court is directed to make the necessary distribution.

SO ORDERED.

April 13, 2026.

FOR THE COURT:



REED O'CONNOR
CHIEF JUDGE

**2026 PROPOSED
LOCAL RULES AMENDMENTS**

New material in an existing rule is redlined. Deleted material is ~~stricken out~~. The clean copy of a proposed amended rule precedes the redlined version.

Civil Rule

LR 83.10 Requirement of Local Counsel.

(a) Local Counsel Required. Unless exempted under LR 83.10(c) or by LR 83.11, local counsel is required in all cases where an attorney appearing in a case does not reside or maintain the attorney’s principal office in this district. “Local counsel” means a member of the bar of this court who resides or maintains the attorney’s principal office in this district. If the presiding judge so orders, local counsel may be subject to requirements such as residing or maintaining the attorney’s principal office within a specified distance from the courthouse in which the case is pending.

(b) Duties of Local Counsel. Local counsel must be able to perform, on behalf of the party represented, any duty required by the presiding judge or the local civil rules of this court.

(c) Exemption from Local Counsel Requirement. The presiding judge may exempt a party from the local counsel requirement in a case pending before the judge.

LR 83.10 Requirement of Local Counsel.

(a) Local Counsel Required. Unless exempted under LR 83.10(c) or by LR 83.11, local counsel is required in all cases where an attorney appearing in a case does not reside or maintain the attorney’s principal office in this district. “Local counsel” means a member of the bar of this court who resides or maintains the attorney’s principal office in this district, ~~and whose residence or principal office is located within 50 miles of the courthouse in the division in which the case is pending. Attorneys desiring to proceed without local counsel must obtain leave from the presiding judge. If the request for leave is denied, written designation of local counsel must be filed within 14 days of the denial.~~ If the presiding judge so orders, local counsel may be subject to requirements such as residing or maintaining the attorney’s principal office within a specified distance from the courthouse in which the case is pending.

(b) Duties of Local Counsel. ~~Local counsel must be authorized to present and argue a party’s position at any hearing called by the presiding judge.~~ Local counsel must also be able to perform, on behalf of the party represented, any ~~other~~ duty required by the presiding judge or the local civil rules of this court.

(c) Exemption from Local Counsel Requirement. The presiding judge may exempt a party from the local counsel requirement in a case pending before the judge.

Criminal Rule

LCrR 57.10 Requirement of Local Counsel.

(a) **Local Counsel Required.** Unless exempted under LCrR 57.10(c) or by LCrR 57.11, local counsel is required in all cases where an attorney appearing in a case does not reside or maintain the attorney's principal office in this district. "Local counsel" means a member of the bar of this court who resides or maintains the attorney's principal office in this district. If the presiding judge so orders, local counsel may be subject to requirements such as residing or maintaining the attorney's principal office within a specified distance from the courthouse in which the case is pending.

(b) **Duties of Local Counsel.** Local counsel must be able to perform, on behalf of the party represented, any duty required by the presiding judge or the local criminal rules of this court.

(c) **Exemption from Local Counsel Requirement.** The presiding judge may exempt a party from the local counsel requirement in a case pending before the judge.

LCrR 57.10 Requirement of Local Counsel.

(a) **Local Counsel Required.** Unless exempted under LCrR 57.10(c) or by LCrR 57.11, local counsel is required in all cases where an attorney appearing in a case does not reside or maintain the attorney's principal office in this district. "Local counsel" means a member of the bar of this court who resides or maintains the attorney's principal office in this district, ~~and whose residence or principal office is located within 50 miles of the courthouse in the division in which the case is pending. Attorneys desiring to proceed without local counsel must obtain leave from the presiding judge. If the request for leave is denied, written designation of local counsel must be filed within 10 days of the denial.~~ If the presiding judge so orders, local counsel may be subject to requirements such as residing or maintaining the attorney's principal office within a specified distance from the courthouse in which the case is pending.

(b) **Duties of Local Counsel.** ~~Local counsel must be authorized to present and argue a party's position at any hearing called by the presiding judge.~~ Local counsel must also be able to perform, on behalf of the party represented, any ~~other~~ duty required by the presiding judge or the local criminal rules of this court.

(c) Exemption from Local Counsel Requirement. The presiding judge may exempt a party from the local counsel requirement in a case pending before the judge.