

**FILED**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**JAN 29 2016**

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EAST ST. LOUIS OFFICE

**In re: District Court Pro Bono Program**

**Administrative Order No. 181**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

Each attorney admitted to practice generally in this Court has a duty to be available for assignment to represent or assist in the representation of those who cannot afford to hire an attorney, and who are found to be in need of counsel. SDIL-L.R. 83.1(i); *see also Pruitt v. Mote*, 503 F.3d 647 (7th Cir. 2007). The rising number of *pro se* cases filed in this district and the need to ensure that attorneys are available for assignment to these cases warrant the immediate revision of Local Rule 83.1 and the creation of a *pro bono* program prior to the Local Rules Committee's completion of the current revision of the whole of the Local Rules.

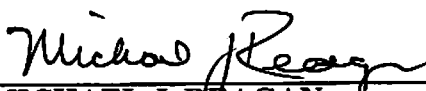
Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2071(e), *prior* to giving public notice and an opportunity for comment, Local Rule 83.1 will be amended and a *pro bono* program will be created under new Local Rules 83.8-83.14. These rules shall take effect immediately and shall apply to pending proceedings.

These rules shall be promptly published on the Court's website (<http://www.ilsd.uscourts.gov>), and the Clerk shall receive comment. These rules may be amended further in the course of the Local Rules Committee's current project, which will be accomplished under the usual notice and comment procedures prescribed by 28 U.S.C. § 2071(b).

An initial panel of 800 attorneys shall be formed by the Clerk in accordance with Local Rule 83.8. The panel's term shall commence immediately and end on March 1, 2017. Attorneys who have been assigned to represent a party *pro bono* in this district within the past 12 months shall be exempt from this inaugural panel. If notified that they are on the panel, they should move to withdraw, citing their prior assignment. Pursuant to newly amended Local Rule 83.8(a)(3), members of the District's current volunteer *Pro Bono* Panel shall be included in the inaugural panel under the new *pro bono* program.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**DATED:** *January 29, 2016*

  
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**MICHAEL J. REAGAN**  
**CHIEF JUDGE**  
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**