

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION

STANDING ORDER NO. 5

TELEPHONIC PARTICIPATION IN HEARINGS

This district's long-standing practice is to require personal appearances for motions and hearings. Telephonic participation is not a right but a courtesy afforded by the court. Appearances by telephone will therefore be allowed only on the following terms:

1. Participation by telephone is available *only* to parties represented by counsel and *only* when counsel's office is (a) outside the Northern District of Illinois and (b) more than 100 miles from the courthouse in Chicago. This restriction may be waived for good cause.

2. All requests for telephonic participation must be made to chambers and approved at least two (2) business days before the hearing in which telephonic participation is sought. Requests may be made by telephone; no written request is necessary.

3. The purpose of permitting telephonic participation is to prevent counsel from having to spend time and money traveling to court for short, relatively routine matters. Telephonic participation therefore will not be approved for longer, more involved matters, evidentiary hearings of any kind, or oral arguments.

4. Counsel appearing telephonically must call from a land-line telephone and must

use a handset or headset. Speaker phones and cell phones may not be used.

5. Because the court's technology is primitive, telephonic participation is not available to multiple parties in a case unless those parties arrange to conference each other in before calling chambers to participate. In the absence of such arrangements, telephonic participation will be permitted to a single party in each case on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dated: April 2, 2007

ENTER: _____/s/_____
A. Benjamin Goldgar
Bankruptcy Judge