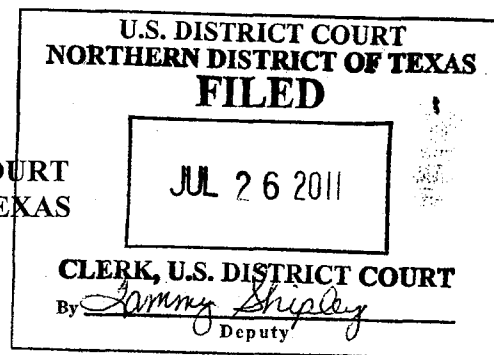


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS



SPECIAL ORDER NO. 3-287

A case involving one or more issues relating to patents or plant variety protection ("Patent Pilot Case") that is filed in or transferred to any division of this court on or after September 1, 2011 shall be assigned according to the civil case assignment procedure then in effect in that division. Within seven days of the date a Patent Pilot Case is assigned to a district judge, the judge may decline to accept the case and direct, orally or in writing, that the case be reassigned to a designated patent judge. The clerk of court shall then randomly reassign the case to a designated patent judge. If the district judge to whom the case is assigned does not decline to accept the case, the case will remain on that judge's docket.

The designated patent judges are: Judge Barbara M.G. Lynn, Judge David C. Godbey, and Judge Ed Kinkeade.*

SO ORDERED.

July 26, 2011

Sidney A. Fitzwater

SIDNEY A. FITZWATER
CHIEF JUDGE

*Except for the designated patent judges, all district judges in the Dallas Division have advised that they intend to decline to accept Patent Pilot Cases for a period of at least one year, and that, if they later decide to accept Patent Pilot Cases, they will notify the other district judges and the bar of their intentions.