


IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
ALL DIVISIONS

July 16, 2024

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

By Deputy Clerk 

Re: 2024 Work Order No. 1

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GENERAL ORDER 2024-4

WORKORDER
(Effective upon entry)

Under 28 U.S.C. § 154, the United States Bankruptcy Judges are assigned these matters. Except as set forth in paragraph 9 below, each judge will retain all cases currently on such judge's docket. All new case assignments shall be made randomly by the Clerk of Court in accordance with the percentage allocations demonstrated in this order for each division.

1. BROWNSVILLE DIVISION.

CASES	CHIEF JUDGE RODRIGUEZ
Chapter 7	100%
Chapter 11	100%
Chapter 12	100%
Chapter 13	100%
Chapter 15	100%

2. CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION.

CASES	JUDGE ISGUR
Chapter 7	100%
Chapter 11	100%
Chapter 12	100%
Chapter 13	100%
Chapter 15	100%

3. GALVESTON DIVISION.

CASES	JUDGE PÉREZ
Chapter 7	100%
Chapter 11	100%
Chapter 12	100%
Chapter 13	100%
Chapter 15	100%

4. HOUSTON DIVISION.

CASES	CHIEF JUDGE RODRIGUEZ	JUDGE ISGUR	JUDGE NORMAN	JUDGE LOPEZ	JUDGE PÉREZ ¹	TOTAL
Chapter 7	31%	22%	32%	5%	10%	100.00%
Chapter 11	40%	0%	40%	5%	15%	100.00%
Chapter 12	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	100.00%
Chapter 13 (Trustee Castro)	25%	0%	55%	0%	20%	100.00%
Chapter 13 (Trustee Peake)	0%	75%	0%	25%	0%	100.00%
Chapter 15	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%	100.00%

5. LAREDO DIVISION.

CASES	JUDGE NORMAN
Chapter 7	100%
Chapter 11	100%
Chapter 12	100%
Chapter 13	100%
Chapter 15	100%

6. MCALLEN DIVISION.

CASES	CHIEF JUDGE RODRIGUEZ
Chapter 7	100%
Chapter 11	100%
Chapter 12	100%
Chapter 13	100%
Chapter 15	100%

7. VICTORIA DIVISION.

CASES	JUDGE LOPEZ	JUDGE ISGUR
Chapter 7	100%	0%
Chapter 11	100%	0%
Chapter 12	100%	0%
Chapter 13	0%	100%
Chapter 15	100%	0%

¹ Until Judge Pérez has been assigned 150 chapter 7 cases in the Houston Division, he will be assigned 25% of all newly filed chapter 7 cases. Until Judge Pérez has been assigned 15 non-complex chapter 11 cases in the Houston Division, he will be assigned 30% of all newly filed chapter 11 cases. The Clerk of Court will make proportionate reductions to the assignments of chapter 7 and 11 cases to other judges.

8. COMPLEX CASES.

- a. The assignment of complex cases is governed by General Order 2018-1. The Judges assigned to the complex panel are Judge Christopher Lopez and Judge Alfredo Pérez.
- b. Judge Isgur will retain all complex cases currently assigned to him.

9. REASSIGNMENTS OF EXISTING CASES.

- a. Judge Norman will retain all open chapter 11 cases in the Galveston Division.
- b. Effective July 27, 2024, with the exception of any pending chapters 7 and 13 cases that have related adversary proceedings, all remaining cases previously assigned to Judge Norman in the Galveston Division are transferred to Judge Pérez.
- c. With the exception of any pending chapter 13 cases that have related adversary proceedings, the Clerk of Court will randomly select 300 chapter 13 cases in the Houston Division that are presently assigned to Judge Norman and randomly select 200 chapter 13 cases in the Houston Division that are presently assigned to Chief Judge Rodriguez and transfer the 500 randomly selected cases to Judge Pérez.

10. ADVERSARY PROCEEDINGS.

- a. Unless otherwise ordered, adversary proceedings that are related to a main case will be assigned to the Bankruptcy Judge to whom the main case is assigned.
- b. Unless otherwise ordered, adversary proceedings that are not related to a main case will be randomly assigned in the same proportion as set forth in the relevant division for the assignment of chapter 7 bankruptcy cases.

11. RECUSALS.

- a. Should a judge be required to recuse, the case will be reassigned in accordance with this table:

DIVISION	RECUSAL JUDGE
Brownsville	Judge Isgur
Corpus Christi	Judge Perez
Galveston	Judge Isgur
Houston Chapter 13 Cases (Lopez)	Judge Isgur
Houston Chapter 13 Cases (Rodriguez)	Judge Norman
Houston Chapter 13 Cases (Isgur)	Judge Lopez
Houston Chapter 13 Cases (Norman)	Judge Pérez
Houston Chapter 13 Cases (Pérez)	Judge Norman
Houston (all other cases)	Randomly across all Judges
Laredo	Chief Judge Rodriguez
McAllen	Judge Isgur

Victoria (Lopez)	Judge Isgur
Victoria (Isgur)	Judge Lopez
Complex cases	First, to the other judge assigned to the complex panel. Second, if that judge is also recused, to Judge Isgur.

b. If a judge that receives a case under this paragraph is also required to recuse, the assignment will be made by Chief Judge Rodriguez after consultation with the judges that are not recused.

12. TRANSFERS OF CASES WITHIN THE DISTRICT.

A judge may transfer a case, an adversary proceeding, or a contested matter to any other judge within the District.

13. EMERGENCY MATTERS.

Applications for temporary restraining orders, preliminary injunctions or other emergency matters will be considered by the judge to whom the case is assigned. If the assigned judge is not available and the matter requires emergency attention, the matter may be considered by any other judge.

14. MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS.

Unless otherwise ordered, miscellaneous proceedings will be presented to Chief Judge Rodriguez. After consultation with the other judges, Chief Judge Rodriguez may preside over the miscellaneous proceeding or assign the miscellaneous proceedings to a judge.


15. AUTHORITY.

This order does not deprive a bankruptcy judge of jurisdiction or authority over any case, proceeding or matter. A bankruptcy judge may try cases and handle other matters for another bankruptcy judge by agreement of the respective judges.

16. BUSINESS OF THE COURT

This Work Order supersedes similar orders of the Court on assignment of the business of the Court.

Signed: July 16, 2024


 Eduardo V. Rodriguez
 Chief United States Bankruptcy Judge