

## GENERAL ORDER NO. 48

### DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTED ENTITIES OR PERSONS

1. **Policy.** So that Judges of this Court may evaluate any need for disqualification or recusal early in the course of any case, each party to any civil proceeding which shall be filed after the effective date of this General Order must file a "Certification of Interested Entities or Persons" pursuant to this General Order. This policy shall not apply to any governmental entity or its agencies.
  
2. **Certification.** Upon making a first appearance in any proceedings in this Court, a party must file with the Clerk a "Certification of Interested Entities or Persons."
  - A. The certification must disclose any persons, associations of persons, firms, partnerships, corporations (including parent corporations), or other entities known by the party to have either (i) a financial interest (of any kind) in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding or (ii) any other kind of interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding.
  - B. For purposes of this General Order, the terms "proceeding" and "financial interest" shall have the meaning assigned by 28 U.S.C. 455 (b)(1), (3) and (4), respectively.
  - C. If any party has no disclosure to make pursuant to subparagraph (b)(1), that party shall make a certification that no such interest is known.
  
3. **Form of Certification.** The Certification of Interested Entities or Persons may take the following form, as is appropriate to the proceeding:
  - A. If there is an interest to be certified: "Pursuant to General Order No. 48, the undersigned certifies that the following listed persons, associations of persons, firms, partnerships, corporations (including parent corporations) or other entities (i) have a financial interest in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding, or (ii) have a non-financial interest in that subject matter or in a party that could be substantially affected by the outcome of this proceeding: (List names and identify their connection and interest). Signature, Attorney of Record."
  - B. If there is no interest to be certified: "Pursuant to General Order No. 48, the undersigned certifies that as of this date there is no such interest to report. Signature, Attorney of Record."
  - C. Certification, pursuant to this subsection, must be included as a distinct section at the end of the complaint, answer, or other pleading.

4. **Superceding Local Rule.** This General Order shall remain in effect until it is superceded by a Local Rule of this Court addressing this subject matter.

ADOPTED: February 22, 2000

For the Court

  
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MARILYN HALL PATEL  
Chief Judge