

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA**

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO LOCAL RULES

The judges of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Georgia are proposing several amendments to the court's local rules. A copy of the proposed amendments are attached to this notice and are also available at each Office of the Clerk in the Middle District of Georgia. The court is soliciting public comment on these proposed changes and asks that all comments be sent to the headquarter's office of the Clerk of Court at Post Office Box 128, Macon, Georgia 31202 or be emailed to the following email address: rulecomments@gamd.uscourts.gov. All comments must be received no later than close of business on September 6, 2016.

This 4th day of August, 2016.

s/DAVID W. BUNT
DAVID W. BUNT
CLERK OF COURT

New Local Criminal Rule

LOCAL CRIMINAL RULE 32

SENTENCING MEMORANDA AND CHARACTER LETTERS

Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding judge, character letters submitted for sentencing and detention hearings shall be part of the public record.

New Local Rule

LOCAL RULE 48.3

SANCTIONS FOR LATE SETTLEMENT IN CIVIL CASES

In any civil case in which a settlement is reached and the court is notified of settlement later than the close of business on the last business day before jurors are scheduled to appear for jury selection, the court may assess reasonable charges reflecting the costs to the government of compensating jurors for their unnecessary appearance. Charges may be assessed against one or more of the parties, or against one or more counsel, as the court deems proper, and the amount collected shall be deposited by the clerk into the Treasury of the United States. Motions objecting to the assessment of costs must be filed within seven (7) days after the assessment of costs.

Amended Rule (Underlined Text Reflects Amendment)

LOCAL RULE 79.2

EXHIBITS AND DOCUMENTS

Unless otherwise directed by the presiding judge, all exhibits received into evidence at any trial or hearing shall be provided to the clerk in electronic format as specified in the court's administrative procedures guide. A photograph of physical or demonstrative exhibits received into evidence shall be provided in electronic format as specified in the court's administrative procedures guide. The clerk shall maintain custody of such physical or demonstrative exhibits, other than contraband, until the expiration of the time for filing a notice of appeal. Electronic exhibits shall become part of the electronic record.

Sensitive exhibits received in evidence, which shall include but are not limited to, drugs, articles of high monetary value, weapons or contraband of any kind may, at the discretion of the presiding judge, be entrusted to the custody of the United States Attorney or to the arresting or investigative agency of the government, who will maintain the integrity of these exhibits pending disposition of the case and for any appeal period thereafter.