

NINETEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

EN BANC ORDER

On August 29, 2021, Hurricane Ida came ashore near Port Fourchon, Louisiana and left the destruction of a major Category 4 Hurricane. Hurricane-force winds inflicted damage throughout many areas of south Louisiana. The causes of action arising therefrom may sometimes be referred to as "the Hurricane Cases." In the aftermath of this catastrophic natural disaster, this Court recognizes a number of insurance coverage-related litigation matters linked to the Hurricane. Accordingly, this Court's aim continues to be the just and expedient resolution of these related matters.

By En Banc Order dated August 14, 2023, this Court established a pilot program for a Complex Litigation Section (CLS). The purpose of a CLS is to actively manage complex litigation disputes in order to provide timely and cost-effective resolution of such matters. The CLS will utilize active judicial case management in collaboration with the parties and their counsel in pursuit of this goal. A "complex case" is generally defined as one which involves multifaceted legal and case management issues requiring all-encompassing judicial management to expedite litigation and to promote effective decision-making by the Court, counsel, and the parties.

It is estimated that between August 25, 2023 and August 30, 2023 500-600 damages petitions related to Hurricane Ida were filed with the Clerk of Court for East Baton Rouge Parish. To promote just and expedient resolution of these related matters, the Judges of the 19th Judicial District Court have deemed it best to transfer all damages petition related to Hurricane Ida ("the Hurricane Cases") to the Complex Litigation Section.

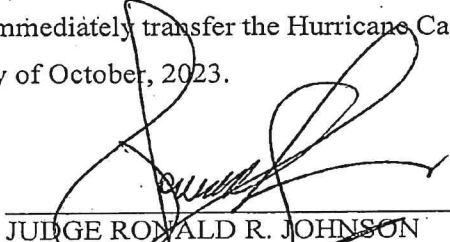
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that with reference to all causes of action arising from Hurricane Ida, hereinafter referred to as "the Hurricane Cases", with the exception of those matters allotted to Sections 22 and 26, the Clerk of Court shall have ten (10) days from the date of this Order, or five (5) days from the date of the filing of an answer or responsive pleading if none has been filed on the date of this Order, to provide notice to all parties of the transfer to the Complex Litigation Section (CLS).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the parties shall have fifteen (15) days from the date notice is sent by the Clerk of Court to request a hearing before the presiding Judge originally allotted that matter, setting forth objections to the transfer to CLS. If there is no objection within the permitted time, then the Clerk of Court shall immediately transfer the Hurricane Cases to CLS.

THUS DONE AND SIGNED this 4th day of October, 2023.



JUDGE KELLY BADFOUR



JUDGE RONALD R. JOHNSON



JUDGE FRED T. CRIFASI



JUDGE WILLIAM "WILL" JORDEN

Kay S. Vidrine



Certified True and Correct Copy
CertID: 2023100900306

East Baton Rouge Parish
Deputy Clerk Of Court

Generated Date:
10/9/2023 3:16 PM

05 OCT 23
JUDGE WILSON E. FIELDS

JUDGE RICHARD M. "CHIP" MOORE

JUDGE TIFFANY FOXWORTH-ROBERTS

JUDGE BRADLEY MYERS

I object - doesn't comply with venue on all issues
JUDGE BEAU HIGGINBOTHAM

JUDGE GAIL HORNE RAY

JUDGE LOUISE HINES

JUDGE EBONI JOHNSON ROSE

JUDGE DONALD R. JOHNSON

JUDGE TARVALE A. SMITH

En Banc Order thus done and signed this 4th day of October, 2023

Kay S. Vidrine



Certified True and Correct Copy
CertID: 2023100900306

East Baton Rouge Parish
Deputy Clerk Of Court

Generated Date:
10/9/2023 3:16 PM