

NOV 29 2011

David J. Bradley, Clerk of Court -  
By Deputy Clerk C. Somn

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

IN THE MATTER OF §  
BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION § GENERAL ORDER NO. 2011-12  
§

AUTHORITY OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES  
TO ENTER FINAL ORDERS

By vote of members of the Court, the following Order is entered:

1. In an adversary proceeding, a party should move to withdraw the reference within 90 days of the complaint or notice of removal.
2. In a contested matter, a party should move to withdraw the reference within 21 days of the pleading initiating the contested matter.
3. Motions to withdraw the reference must be first submitted to the bankruptcy judge for a recommendation to the district court.
4. Before the bankruptcy judge, on appeal, or both, a party may challenge the bankruptcy judge's authority at any time. A party's not having moved to withdraw the reference within these times does not waive a party's right to challenge the bankruptcy judge's authority.
5. The general right of a party in interest to move to withdraw an adversary proceeding or contested matter to the district court remains.
6. The bankruptcy judge or district judge may raise the issue of the bankruptcy judge's authority at any time and on their own initiative.

Signed the 29<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011.

  
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RICARDO H. HINOJOSA  
CHIEF JUDGE