

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF THE AUTHORITY  
OF BANKRUPTCY JUDGES TO CONDUCT  
JURY TRIALS IN CERTAIN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS

GENERAL ORDER NO. 44

It appears to the Court that the "Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994" (H.R. 5116) enacted on October 22, 1994, amends 28 U.S.C. § 157 by adding a new subsection (e) to empower a bankruptcy judge to conduct a jury trial, provided that the bankruptcy judge is specially designated to exercise such jurisdiction by the District Court and further provided all parties expressly consent.

Specifically, 28 U.S.C. § 157(e) provides as follows:

If the right to a jury trial applies in a proceeding that may be heard under this section by a bankruptcy judge, the bankruptcy judge may conduct the jury trial if specially designated to exercise such jurisdiction by the district court and with the express consent of all the parties.

Based on the foregoing, and if the right to a jury trial exists and applies in a civil proceeding that may be heard under 28 U.S.C. § 157 by a bankruptcy judge, this Court specially designates that the bankruptcy judges of this Judicial District may exercise such jurisdiction by the District Court and conduct jury trials with the express consent of all the parties.

DATED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1995.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Stephen M. Reasoner  
STEPHEN M. REASONER, CHIEF JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT