

**(c) Reassignment of Actions.**

**(1) Conditions for Reassignment.** A case may be reassigned to another judge if it is found to be related to a lower-numbered case assigned to that judge and each of the following criteria is met:

**(A)** both cases are pending in this District;

**(B)** the handling of both cases by the same judge is likely to result in a substantial saving of judicial resources; and

**(C)** neither case has progressed to the point where reassigning a case would be likely to substantially delay the proceedings in either case, or the Court finds that the assignment of the cases to the same judge would promote consistency in resolution of the cases or otherwise be in the interest of justice.

A case may be randomly reassigned to a judge pursuant to General L.R. 3(a) if it was initially assigned pursuant to Civil L.R. 3(b)(4) and fails to meet each of the above criteria.

**(2) Motion to Reassign.**

**(A)** A motion for reassignment based on relatedness or a lack of relatedness may be filed by any party to a case. In order that all parties to a proceeding be permitted to respond on the questions of relatedness and possible reassignment, such motions should not generally be filed until after the answer or motions in lieu of answer have been filed in each of the proceedings involved.

**(B)** The motion must be filed in each related case~~with,~~ and will be decided by~~;~~ the judge to whom the lowest-numbered case of the claimed related set is assigned for trial or other final disposition. ~~Copies of the motion must be served on all parties and on the judges for all of the affected cases.~~

**(C)** The motion must:

**(i)** set forth the points of commonality of the cases in sufficient detail to indicate that the cases are or are not related within the meaning of paragraph (b)(1);

**(ii)** indicate the extent to which the conditions required by paragraph (c)(1) will or will not be met if the cases are found to be related; and

(iii) be accompanied by a copy of the complaint or other relevant pleading in each of the higher-numbered cases that are the subject of the motion.

(D) Any objection to the motion must be filed within 7 days of the filing of the motion, and served on all parties and on the judges for all of the affected cases.

**(3) Order.**

(A) The judge to whom the motion is presented may consult with the judge or judges before whom the other case or cases are pending, if any. The judge must enter an order finding whether or not the cases are related, and, if they are, whether the higher numbered case or cases were properly assigned, or should be reassigned, to that judge.

(B) Where the judge finds that reassignment of a case assigned to a different judge should occur, the Clerk of Court must reassign the higher-numbered case or cases to the judge deciding the motion and to whom the lowest-numbered case is assigned. ~~A copy of any finding on relatedness and whether or not reassignment should take place must be sent to each of the judges before whom any of the higher numbered cases are pending.~~

(C) Where the judge finds that reassignment of a case that was initially assigned to that judge should occur, the Clerk of Court must randomly reassign the case pursuant to Gen. L.R. 3(a).