

**JUDGES FOR PATENT PILOT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED  
IN THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

September 19, 2011 – Chicago, IL

In June, the Northern District of Illinois was selected as one of 14 courts to participate in a “[Patent Pilot Program](#).” Newly-filed patent cases will still be randomly assigned among all of the Northern District judges. The randomly-assigned judge may then opt to keep the case, or, [as of today](#) any randomly-assigned judge who is not designated as a “Patent Pilot Judge” has 30 days to decline hearing that case. Such cases are then randomly assigned to one of the of the following [Patent Pilot Judges](#):

Chief Judge James F. Holderman  
Judge Ruben Castillo  
Judge John W. Darrah  
Judge Gary S. Feinerman  
Judge Virginia Kendall  
Judge Matthew F. Kennelly  
Judge Joan Humphrey Lefkow  
Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer  
Judge Amy J. St. Eve and  
Judge James B. Zagel

The Patent Pilot Program is authorized to run for ten years in the Northern District of Illinois as well as these 13 other pilot districts: Northern, Central and Southern Districts of California, Nevada, New Jersey, Eastern and Southern Districts of New York, Western District of Pennsylvania, and the Eastern, Northern, and Western Districts of Texas.

- Michael La Porte

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Michael La Porte is a member of Flachsbart & Greenspoon. This alert and other articles and resources are available at [http://www.fg-law.com/news\\_fg-law.html](http://www.fg-law.com/news_fg-law.html).