

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
EASTERN DIVISION**

<b>IN RE: AME CHURCH EMPLOYEE</b>	)	<b>Lead Case No.</b>
<b>RETIREMENT FUND LITIGATION,</b>	)	<b>1:22-md-03035-STA-jay</b>
	)	
<i>This Order Relates to All Cases</i>	)	

---

**PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE ORDER  
UPON TRANSFER PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1407(a)**

---

1. This order shall govern the practice and procedure in actions transferred to the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (“Panel”) pursuant to the Panel’s June 2, 2022 order, as well as all related actions originally filed in the Western District of Tennessee or removed to this Court. The actions currently before the Court are listed in Appendix A to this Order. This Order shall also govern the practice and procedure in any related actions subsequently filed in this Court, any “tag-along action”<sup>1</sup> transferred to this Court by the Panel pursuant to Rule 7.1 of the Panel’s Rules of Procedure, and any other action otherwise transferred or removed to this Court at a later time.

2. The actions described in the above paragraph are consolidated for pretrial purposes.

3. Any paper which is to be filed in any of the actions shall be filed electronically with the Clerk of this Court, and not with the transferor district court, through the Western District of Tennessee’s CM-ECF system.

4. All filings shall bear the identification “MDL Docket No. 1:22-md-03035-STA-jay,” and, when a filing relates to all the actions, the MDL docket number shall be followed by the notation “ALL CASES.” If a filing does not relate to all the actions, then the individual docket number(s)

---

<sup>1</sup> “Tag-along action” refers to a civil action pending in a district court which involves common questions of fact with actions previously transferred to an existing MDL, and which the Panel would consider transferring under Section 1407. R. P. Jud. Panel on Multidistrict Litig. 1.1(h).

assigned by the Clerk of this Clerk (listed in Appendix A) of the action(s) to which the filing relates shall be listed.

5. Counsel are not required to seek special admission to appear in this case upon transfer or removal to the Western District of Tennessee. Parties are not required to obtain local counsel. *See* R. P. Jud. Panel on Multidistrict Litig. 2.1(c). Any lawyer who wishes to have his or her name added to or deleted from the Attorney Service List may do so upon request to the MDL Clerk of this Court [email: MDL3035@tnwd.uscourts.gov].

6. Hearings shall not be held on any motions except by order of the Court and with notice to the parties and their counsel.

7. Counsel should familiarize themselves with the Local Rules of Court, which are available on the Court's website. Local Rule 7.1 governs the general format of papers presented for filing, and Local Rule 7.2 governs motion practice.

8. Any paper filed in any of the actions may incorporate by reference a substantially identical paper filed in another of the actions. Where counsel for more than one party plan to file substantially identical papers, they shall join in the submission of such papers and shall file only one paper on behalf of all those so joined.

9. Any orders, including protective orders entered by any transferor district court, shall remain in full force and effect unless modified by this Court.

10. All discovery proceedings in the actions are hereby STAYED until further order of this Court. The time requirements to perform any acts or file any papers pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26 through 37 are tolled until the initial organizational conference occurs.

11. The Court will be guided by the Manual for Complex Litigation, Fourth (2004) in this MDL action as well as the Panel's Rules of Procedure.

12. Rule 5.1 of the Panel's Rules of Procedure, like Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 7.1, requires the filing of a corporate disclosure statement. A copy of this statement shall be filed by July 7, 2022.

13. All other matters will be discussed at the initial organizational conference. The Court hereby sets the conference for Thursday, August 4, 2022, 10:00 a.m., Courtroom 1, Jackson, Tennessee. All counsel of record are required to attend the initial conference in person. Counsel shall file a list of proposed items to be included on the conference's agenda by July 21, 2022.

14. Counsel shall meet and confer with one another before the initial organizational conference and shall submit a proposed case management order by July 21, 2022.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/ S. Thomas Anderson**  
S. THOMAS ANDERSON  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Date: June 22, 2022

**Appendix A – MDL No. 3035 Member Cases**

<u>W.D. Tenn. Transferee No.</u>	<u>Caption</u>
2:22-cv-02136-STA-jay	<i>Ewing v. Newport Group et al.</i>
2:22-cv-02174-STA-jay	<i>Jackson v. Newport Group et al.</i>
1:22-cv-01126-STA-jay	<i>Wade et al. v. Newport Group et al.</i> (E.D. Va. No. 3:22cv179)
1:22-cv-01127-STA-jay	<i>Carmichael et al. v. Harris et al.</i> (M.D.N.C. No. 1:22-CV-386)
1:22-cv-01128-STA-jay	<i>Alexander v. Harris et al.</i> (D. Md. No. 8:22-CV-00707)
1:22-cv-01129-STA-jay	<i>Russ et al. v. Newport Group et al.</i> (M.D. Fla. No. 3:22CV375)