IN RE: HURRICANE IKE LITIGATION \$ IN THE DISTRICT COURTS OF \$ JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS

## **GENERAL ORDER NO. 4**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009, the District Judges of Jefferson County formally met to address current administrative management in Hurricane Ike cases. In an effort to address concerns of consistency amongst the courts as it relates to all prior General and Standing Orders previously entered, the following clarification is hereby ORDERED:

- 1. The original January 29, 2009 General Order regarding consolidation for discovery purposes stands. ALL discovery related issues will be heard by the court assigned to the particular defendants as detailed more fully in that Order. All dispositive or other non-discovery related matters shall be heard/decided by the court in which the case is pending. This Order applies to all cases i.e.; those operating under the Standing Pre-Trial Order (for residential claims), those that have opted out of that Order as well as those that involve commercial claims.
- 2. The Standing Pre-Trial Order signed on July 7, 2009 pertains to residential claims ONLY notwithstanding any language contained therein.
- 3. Paragraph J in the Standing Pre-Trial Order is modified as follows. The parties shall set a Status Conference to occur on each case under this Order 150 days from the date the first answer is filed by any Defendant (unless excused by Order of the trial court) and counsel shall provide written notice to all parties of the date and time of the Status Conference.

64: E9 75 3UA 90°

PILED AN TRUCO TOPATRIO SAXOT ON MODES 4731.

## SIGNED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009.

PRESIDING JUDGE 172<sup>nd</sup> DISTRICT COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE AND

PRESIDING JUDGE

60<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT COURT

PRESIDING JUDGE 136<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT COURT

HON. BOB WORTHAM PRESIDING JUDGE 58<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT COURT