

Pursuant to LR 1.2(b), the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire gives notice that it intends to amend LR 17.1 regarding Settlements on Behalf of Minors. The current and proposed amended rules are set forth below. All comments, including suggestions or other correspondence, related to this amendment may be made before January 17, 2018, and directed to Pamela E. Phelan, Chief Deputy Clerk at pamela_phelan@nhd.uscourts.gov or U.S. District Court, Warren B. Rudman U.S. Courthouse, 55 Pleasant Street, Room 110, Concord, NH 03301-3941.

Current Local Rule 17.1 Settlements on Behalf of Minors:

No settlement of any suit brought on behalf of a minor by a parent or next friend shall be valid unless approved by the court. To obtain approval of a settlement on behalf of a minor, the parties shall file a motion that is signed by the minor’s parent, next friend, or guardian. If the minor is a New Hampshire resident, the motion shall contain the information required by New Hampshire Superior Court Civil Rule 40. If the minor is a resident of a state other than New Hampshire, the motion shall contain the information required by sections (d), (e), (i) and (k) of Rule 40 and a brief statement of the law relative to minor settlements in the state of residence with citations to relevant authority.

Proposed Amended Local Rule 17.1 Settlements on Behalf of Minors:

No settlement of any suit brought on behalf of a minor by a parent, next friend, or guardian shall be valid unless approved by the court. To obtain approval of a settlement on behalf of a minor, the parties shall file a motion that is signed by the minor’s parent, next friend, or guardian.

(a) If the minor is a New Hampshire resident, the motion shall comply with sections (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (k) of New Hampshire Superior Court Civil Rule 40 or provide an explanation as to why a specific section does not apply in the circumstances of that case. Court approval is required for all settlements on behalf of a minor, regardless of the net amount of the settlement. Section (b) of Rule 40 is not applicable in this court.

(b) If the minor is a resident of a state other than New Hampshire, the motion shall comply with sections (d), (e), (i), and (k) of New Hampshire Superior Court Civil Rule 40 or provide an explanation as to why a specific section does not apply in the circumstances of that case. The motion shall also provide a brief statement of the law relative to minor settlements in the state of residence with citations to relevant authority.