

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED NEW LOCAL RULE 21(d)**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Court intends to adopt proposed Local Rule 21(d).

To facilitate the Court's resolution of mandamus petitions asserting the rights of crime victims within the 72-hour deadline established by 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d)(3), the proposed new local rule requires the petitioner to provide the Clerk's Office with advance notice of the filing of the petition, identify the petition as one asserting crime victims' rights pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d)(3), and arrange for immediate service of the petition on the relevant parties.

The proposed local rule will take effect on August 1, 2006, subject to amendment in light of comments received. Interested parties may submit comments on or before July 31, 2006, to:

Patricia S. Connor, Clerk  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit  
1100 E. Main Street, Suite 501  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

June 1, 2006

Date

/s/ Patricia S. Connor

Clerk

**Local Rule 21(d). Petitions for Writ of Mandamus Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3771, Crime Victims' Rights.**

A petition for writ of mandamus asserting the rights of a crime victim pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d)(3) shall bear the caption "PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. § 3771, CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS." Before filing such a petition, the petitioner must notify the Court of Appeals that such a petition will be filed and must arrange for immediate service of the petition on the relevant parties. Such notification must be by telephone call to the Office of the Clerk during normal office hours (804-916-2700).

A failure to comply with these requirements will adversely affect the Court's ability to decide the petition within 72 hours as required by 18 U.S.C. § 3771(d)(3).