LOCAL RULE 16:
CASES OF BROAD PUBLIC IMPORT

1) The assigned Judge or Commissioner may declare, in any case where the resolution of novel legal issues or particularly significant factual disputes have ramifications beyond that of a single case, that the case is a case of broad public import subject to this rule.

2) The Court may order that related or similar motions in cases of broad public import be heard together in the interests of judicial economy, may set cases upon a special motion calendar for that purpose, and may make such orders as the Court may deem necessary to expeditiously and effectively resolve said motions

3) In the interest of an informed citizenry and bar, the Clerk shall solicit and maintain a list of interested attorneys, media representatives, and any other citizens who wish to be notified when the Court reaches a decision in cases of broad public import. When a special or joint broad public import, the Clerk shall notify all members fo the list and provide a brief summary of the nature of the motion. The Court may direct that such notice include an invitation to other attorneys to file related motions for the same time as the special or joint hearing. When a written decision is filed on a case of broad public import, the Clerk shall electronically transmit a copy of the written decision to all members of said list, but only after copies are sent to the attorneys of record in the case.

[Adopted effective August 12, 2004]