United States District Court
Western District of Kentucky
Office of the Clerk
United States Courthouse
601 West Broadway, Room 106
Louisville, Kentucky 40202-2249
(502) 625-3500
Writers Direct Dial: (502) 625-3538
Email Address: andrea r. kasha kywd.uscourts.gov

Jeffrey A. Apperson Clerk of Court Vanessa L. Armstrong Chief Deputy Clerk

August 21, 2008

Sarah Thornton, Clerk District of Massachusetts Clerk's Office- Attention Sherry Jones 595 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608

In Re: MDL No. 1974- In Re Countrywide Financial Corporation Mortgage Lending Practices Litigation Conditional Transfer Order No. 1

Dear Clerk of Court:

Attached is a certified copy of CTO 1 from the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation ordering the transfer of a case currently pending in your district:

#### Gillian Miller, et al. v. Countrywide Bank, NA, et al., CA. 1:07-11275

Pursuant to this order the above-styled case must be transferred to the Western District of Kentucky at Louisville.

Please file the attached certified copy of the CTO in the affected case, and close the case.

Please transmit the record of this case to the Western District of Kentucky at Louisville using the CM/ECF Case Transfer utility.

If you have any questions, please fee free to contact me by email or at 502-625-3538.

Sincerely,

/s/:Andrea R. Kash

Andrea R. Kash MDL Case Manager

Attachment: Certified Copy of CTO No. 1

cc: Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation

# A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY ATTEST

By Denise Morgan-Stone on Aug 07, 2008

FOR THE UNITED STATES
JUDICIAL PANEL ON
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

IN RE: COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL CORP.

MORTGAGE LENDING PRACTICES LITIGATION

UNITED STATES
JUDICIAL PANEL ON
MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

Aug 07, 2008

UNITED STATES JUDICIAL PANEL FILED

On CLERK'S OFFICE

# MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

MDL No. 1974

## TRANSFER ORDER

Before the entire Panel\*: Plaintiffs in the District of Massachusetts action have moved, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407, for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings of this litigation in the District of Massachusetts. Plaintiffs in the remaining two actions agree that centralization is appropriate, but suggest centralization in either the Central District of California or Northern District of Illinois. The Countrywide affiliated defendants¹ oppose the motion; if the Panel deems centralization appropriate, they support centralization in the Central District of California.

This litigation presently consists of three actions listed on Schedule A and pending in three districts as follows: one action each in the Central District of California, the Northern District of Illinois and the District of Massachusetts.

On the basis of the papers filed and hearing session held, we find that the actions in this litigation involve common questions of fact, and that centralization under Section 1407 in the Western District of Kentucky will serve the convenience of the parties and witnesses and promote the just and efficient conduct of the litigation. All actions share factual questions relating to whether Countrywide engaged in discriminatory residential lending practices, including the imposition of discretionary fees/charges, which increased the cost of financing and resulted in higher loans for minority borrowers than similarly situated non-minority borrowers. Centralization under Section 1407 will eliminate duplicative discovery; avoid inconsistent pretrial rulings, especially on the issue of class certification; and conserve the resources of the parties, their counsel and the judiciary.

Given that this litigation involves three purported nationwide class actions, many districts would be an appropriate transferee forum. Accordingly, we have selected the Western District of Kentucky, where Judge John G. Heyburn II can guide this litigation ably.

<sup>\*</sup> Judge Heyburn took no part in the disposition of this matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Countrywide Financial Corp.; Countrywide Home Loans, Inc.; and Countrywide Bank, FSB (collectively Countrywide).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1407, the actions listed on Schedule A are transferred to the Western District of Kentucky and, with the consent of that court, assigned to the Honorable John G. Heyburn II for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings.

### PANEL ON MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

J. Frederick Motz Acting Chairman

John G. Heyburn II, Chairman Kathryn H. Vratil

Robert L. Miller, Jr. David R. Hansen

# IN RE: COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL CORP. MORTGAGE LENDING PRACTICES LITIGATION

MDL No. 1974

### **SCHEDULE A**

### Central District of California

Gabriel Garcia v. Countrywide Financial Corp., et al., C.A. No. 5:07-1161

### Northern District of Illinois

Sonia Jenkins, et al. v. Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., C.A. No. 1:08-2935

### District of Massachusetts

Gillian Miller, et al. v. Countrywide Bank, N.A., et al., C.A. No. 1:07-11275