

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

**GENERAL ORDER RE: DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT AND APPORTIONMENT OF  
CASES AMONG UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES**

It is hereby **ORDERED** that matters referred and assigned to United States Magistrate Judges in this district shall be directed and apportioned as follows:

**I. Divisional Assignments**

<u>Division</u>	<u>Magistrate Judge</u>
Beaumont	Hon. Zack Hawthorn = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
	Hon. Christine L. Stetson = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
Lufkin	Hon. Zack Hawthorn = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
	Hon. Christine L. Stetson = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
Marshall	Hon. Roy Payne = 100% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
Sherman	<u>Case Assigned to Sherman District Judge</u>
	Hon. Aileen Goldman Durrett = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2241 Habeas, 100% 2254 Habeas

Hon. Bill Davis = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2241 Habeas, 100% 2255 Habeas

Case Assigned to Beaumont District Judge

Hon. Zack Hawthorn = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas\*

Hon. Christine L. Stetson = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas\*

Case Assigned to Texarkana District Judge

Hon. Boone Baxter = 100% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas\*

Case Assigned to Tyler District Judge

Hon. John D. Love = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas\*

Hon. K. Nicole Mitchell = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas\*

Texarkana

Hon. Boone Baxter = 100% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas

Tyler

Hon. John D. Love = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas

Hon. K. Nicole Mitchell = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas

\* Including cases randomly reassigned to the district judge pursuant to Standing Order Assigning Social Security Appeal Cases Filed in the Sherman Division to a Magistrate Judge and Standing Order Assigning Prisoner Civil Rights Case Filed in the Sherman Division to a Magistrate Judge.

## **II. Apportionment**

In divisions served by more than one magistrate judge, matters shall be referred and assigned as follows:

- A. Civil Cases:
  - 1. Prisoner suits shall be referred equally among magistrate judges with concurrent case responsibilities except as specified above. Prisoner suits shall be assigned to the magistrate judge to whom the case originally was referred when parties consent to trial and entry of judgment by a magistrate judge.
  - 2. All other civil matters shall be referred or assigned randomly except as specified above or unless a specific order of the court directs otherwise.
  
- B. Criminal Cases:
  - 1. Magistrate judges shall rotate responsibilities for handling unscheduled matters and cases processed through the Central Violations Bureau (CVB) so that each has equal duty time.
  - 2. Except when governed by General Order 93-6:
    - a. Class A misdemeanor cases shall be assigned randomly to a magistrate judge when the case is filed except as specified above.
    - b. Class B and Class C misdemeanors and infractions, except CVB cases, shall be assigned to the duty magistrate judge at the time of defendant's first appearance in this district.

## **III. Miscellaneous**

- A. Assignment of additional duties to magistrate judges will be made as deemed appropriate.

- B. Transfers between magistrate judges to equalize dockets and for other appropriate reasons shall be entered from time to time upon concurrence of the transferee judge.
- C. This order supersedes all prior general orders governing divisional assignments and allocation of duties of magistrate judges. Individual district judge's ad hoc and standing orders governing specific referrals and assignments of cases to magistrate judges are unaffected by this order.

This general order supersedes its predecessor, General Order 24-07.

**FOR THE COURT and Effective as of the 1st day of March, 2025.**

  
AMOS L. MAZZANT, III  
CHIEF JUDGE