

**GENERAL ORDER NO. 05-07**

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

**MAGISTRATE JUDGE REFERRAL ORDER - PRO SE NON-PRISONER CASES**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §636 and the local rules, it is hereby ORDERED that all pretrial matters in all pro se non-prisoner civil cases, including motions for in forma pauperis and motions for appointment of counsel, are hereby referred to a magistrate judge that serves in the division where the case was filed. In divisions that have more than one magistrate judge, the magistrate judge shall be randomly selected by the U.S. district clerk.

When parties consent to disposition of a pro se non-prisoner case by a magistrate judge, the action shall be reassigned automatically to the referral magistrate judge, who shall conduct any and all proceedings and order entry of judgment in the case.

A judge may opt out of this general order by entering an order.

SIGNED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2005.

**FOR THE COURT:**

  
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Thad Heartfield, Chief Judge