

THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA

In the matter of

CONSENT TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE IN
SOCIAL SECURITY LITIGATION

MISCELLANEOUS GENERAL ORDER
23-05

The Judges of the United States District Court for the District of Alaska have approved new procedures for consent to United States Magistrate Judges presiding over certain civil cases. The goal of these new procedures is to increase the percentage of consent cases.

This Court direct assigns a percentage of the following civil cases to its Magistrate Judges, including the authority to preside at trial and enter a final judgment:

- Cases in which a plaintiff seeks review, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g), of an unfavorable decision by the Commissioner of Social Security.

Consent to a Magistrate Judge is voluntary. When a case is direct assigned to a Magistrate Judge, all parties will be provided with a declination of consent form. Any party may decline consent to the Magistrate Judge by signing and timely submitting the declination of consent form to the Court by either emailing or mailing it.

Effective as of the date of this Order, each party will be deemed to have knowingly and voluntarily consented to proceed before the assigned Magistrate Judge if the declination of consent form is not emailed to the Court or postmarked for mail delivery to the Court by the date stated on the form.

If a party declines consent, the clerk will immediately reassign the case to a District Judge by random selection. No judge will be informed of which party declined consent to the Magistrate Judge. The case may be referred to the Magistrate Judge to whom it was initially assigned.

This new procedure shall apply to all of the above-described civil cases filed after October 30, 2023, that have been randomly assigned to a United States Magistrate Judge.

The new consent procedures form and this MGO are available to review on the Court's web site, <https://www.akd.uscourts.gov>.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 19th day of October 2023.

/s/ Sharon L. Gleason
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
DISTRICT OF ALASKA

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