

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF ALASKA

LOCAL MAGISTRATE JUDGE RULES

EFFECTIVE *OCTOBER 1, 2002*

WITH AMENDMENTS THROUGH *JANUARY 3, 2006*

**[TO GO TO DESIRED RULE, CLICK ON RULE NUMBER IN TABLE OF CONTENTS]**

SUMMARY OF JANUARY 2006 AMENDMENTS

**Rule 4:** Deleted automatic referral of Internal Revenue Service summonses; social security act cases; ERISA trustee collections; §1983 prisoner suits; Miller Act cases; cost bill reviews; and collection actions by the United States.

**Rule 6:** The title and of the rule and paragraph (a)(1) amended to implement new FED. R. CRIM. P. 59 making this rule applicable to review by the assigned district judge in both dispositive and non-dispositive matters.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Rule 1. Scope, Title and Effective Date](#) . . . . . 1

[Rule 2. Authority of Magistrate Judges](#) . . . . . 1

[Rule 3. Criminal Matters Routinely Assigned to Magistrate Judges](#) . . . . . 1

[Rule 4. Civil Matters Routinely Assigned to Magistrate Judges](#) . . . . . 2

[Rule 5. Review of Magistrate Judge Civil Pretrial Orders](#) . . . . . 3

[Rule 6. Objections to Dispositive Matters under 28 U.S.C. § 636\(b\)\(1\) in Criminal Matters](#) . . . 3

[Rule 7 Trial by Consent](#) . . . . . 4

## **Rule 1. Scope, Title and Effective Date**

- (a) **Title and Citation.** These are known as the Local Magistrate Judge Rules of the United States District Court for the District of Alaska, and may be cited as “D.Ak.LMR \_\_\_\_.”
- (b) **Effective Date.** These rules become effective October 1, 2002.
- (c) **Applicability.** These rules apply to all actions and proceedings commenced on or after the effective day and, except to the extent that the rights of a party may be prejudiced thereby, to all open actions and proceedings on the effective date.
- (d) **Conflicts.** In the event of a conflict between these rules and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure will prevail.

## **Rule 2. Authority of Magistrate Judges**

A Magistrate Judge appointed by this court is, with respect to matters assigned, authorized to exercise all powers and perform all duties conferred expressly or by implication upon magistrate judges by, and in accordance with, procedures now or hereafter set provided in the United States Code, rules promulgated by the Supreme Court, and the rules of this Court.

### Related Provisions:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 28 U.S.C. § 636 | Jurisdiction, powers, and temporary assignments          |
| F.R.Civ.P. 72   | Magistrate Judges; Pre-trial Orders                      |
| F.R.Civ.P. 73   | Magistrate Judges; Trial by Consent and Appeal Option    |
| D.Ak.LMR 3      | Criminal Matters Routinely Assigned to Magistrate Judges |
| D.Ak.LMR 4      | Civil Matters Routinely Assigned to Magistrate Judges    |
| D.Ak. LMR 7     | Trial by Consent   |

## **Rule 3. Criminal Matters Routinely Assigned to Magistrate Judges**

- (a) **In General.** Unless otherwise provided by order of a district judge, all criminal matters designated for hearing before magistrate judges by statute or the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure will be assigned to magistrate judges, including but not limited to:
- (1) issuance of arrest warrants;
  - (2) issuance of search warrants;
  - (3) initial appearances;
  - (4) preliminary examinations;
  - (5) removal hearings;
  - (6) Class B and Class C misdemeanor cases, and infractions in their entirety; and
  - (7) Class A misdemeanor cases in their entirety upon consent of the defendant.
- (b) **Other Matters.** Unless otherwise provided by order of a district judge, in addition to the matters provided in subsection (a), the following criminal matters will be assigned to magistrate judges:
- (1) extradition proceedings under 18 U.S.C. § 3184;
  - (2) return of indictments;
  - (3) warrants and summonses upon indictment or information;
  - (4) arraignments;
  - (5) waivers of indictment;
  - (6) pretrial release and detention hearings;
  - (7) non-dispositive pretrial motions within the scope of 28 U.S.C. § 636 (b)(1)(A), except motions related to the scheduling of trials not otherwise assigned to a magistrate judge; and
  - (8) dispositive pre-trial motions within the scope of 28 U.S.C. § 636 (b)(1)(B) for reports and recommendations.

Related Provisions:

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 18 U.S.C. § 19          | Petty Offenses  |
| 18 U.S.C. §§ 3141–3156  | Release and Detention Pending Judicial Proceedings                    |
| 18 U.S.C. § 3184        | Fugitives from foreign country to United States                       |
| 18 U.S.C. §§ 3401, 3402 | Trial by United States Magistrate Judges                              |
| 28 U.S.C. § 636         | Jurisdiction, powers, and temporary assignments                       |
| F.R.Cr.P. 4             | Arrest Warrant or Summons Upon Complaint                              |
| F.R.Cr.P. 5             | Initial Appearance Before the Magistrate Judge                        |
| F.R.Cr.P. 5.1           | Preliminary Examination   |
| F.R.Cr.P. 7             | The Indictment and the Information                                    |
| F.R.Cr.P. 10            | Arrestment  |
| F.R.Cr.P. 40            | Commitment to Another District  |
| F.R.Cr.P. 41            | Search and Seizure  |
| F.R.Cr.P. 46            | Release From Custody  |
| F.R.Cr.P. 58            | Procedure for Misdemeanors and Other Petty Offenses                   |
| F.R.Cr.P. 59            | Matters Before a Magistrate Judge                                     |
| D.Ak.LMR 2              | Authority of Magistrate Judges  |
| D.Ak.LMR 6              | Objections to Matters under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) in Criminal Matters |

**Rule 4. Civil Matters Routinely Assigned to Magistrate Judges**

Unless otherwise provided by order of a district judge, the following civil matters will be assigned to magistrate judges for disposition or findings and recommendations as appropriate:

- (1) administrative inspection warrants;
- (2) Matters relating to nonpayment of seaman's wages;
- (3) *Habeas Corpus* petitions initiated under 28 U.S.C. § 2254;
- (4) Motions Attacking Sentence under 28 U.S.C. § 2255;
- (5) preferred ship mortgage foreclosures;
- (6) matters relating to the arrest, seizure, or release of vessels and other property under the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims; and
- (7) matters relating to the enforcement of administrative subpoenas.

Related Provisions:

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 26 U.S.C. § 7604 | Enforcement of Summons                                 |
| 28 U.S.C. § 636  | Jurisdiction, powers and temporary assignment          |
| 28 U.S.C. § 2254 | State custody; remedies in Federal courts              |
| 28 U.S.C. § 2255 | Federal custody; remedies on motion attacking sentence |
| F.R.Civ.P. 54    | Judgments; Costs                                       |
| F.R.Civ.P. 72    | Magistrate Judges; Pre-trial Orders                    |
| F.R.Civ.P. 73    | Magistrate Judges; Trial by Consent and Appeal Option  |
| Admiralty Rule C | Actions in Rem; Special Proceedings                    |
| Admiralty Rule E | Actions in Rem and Quasi in Rem; General Provisions    |
| D.Ak.LMR 2       | Authority of Magistrate Judges                         |

## **Rule 5. Review of Magistrate Judge Civil Pretrial Orders.**

### **(a) Nondispositive Matters under Rule 72(a), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.**

(1) Unless otherwise ordered by a district judge:

[A] not later than fifteen (15) days after the objection is filed, the objecting party must serve and file a brief;

[B] not later than fifteen (15) days after service of the objecting party's brief, the opposing party must file an opposing brief; and

[C] the objecting party may serve and file a reply brief within five (5) days after service of the opposing party's brief.

(2) Unless leave of court is obtained, for good cause shown:

[A] objections are limited to those matters fairly presented to or raised before the magistrate judge; and

[B] new matters or issues may not be raised for the first time in an objection to the decision of a magistrate judge.

(3) Preparation of briefs is governed by D. Ak.LR 5.1.

(4) Unless otherwise ordered, forty (40) days after the objection is filed if a hearing is deemed required it will be set for hearing by the court.

### **(b) Dispositive Motions and Prisoner Petitions under Rule 72(b), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.**

(1) Unless otherwise ordered by the district judge, no briefs, other than the objection and reply provided in Rule 72(b), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, will be permitted.

(2) The court may, on its own motion or the motion of any party, set the matter for a further evidentiary hearing either before the district court or it may remand the matter to the magistrate judge to take such further evidence as the district judge may deem necessary.

(3) A party requesting a further evidentiary hearing must serve and file a motion not later than seven (7) days after the transcript of the record is certified, which motion must:

[A] describe the nature of the evidence to be proffered and its relevance to the specific objections; and

[B] contain a statement of the reason the proffered evidence could not be presented to the magistrate judge.

#### Related Provisions:

F.R.Civ.P. 72                      Magistrate Judges; Pretrial Orders  
D.Ak.LR 10.1                      Form of Pleadings and Other Papers

## **Rule 6. Objections to Matters under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) in Criminal Cases**

### **(a) Objections and Replies.** Unless otherwise ordered:

(1) an objection to non-dispositive orders entered under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A) or initial findings and recommendations entered under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) must be filed within the time specified in Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 59;

(2) any reply to the objection must be filed within five (5) days after any objection is filed; and

(3) no briefs, other than the objection and reply will be permitted.

### **(b) Initial Review by Magistrate Judge.** Unless otherwise ordered, an objection to a dispositive matter referred under §636(b)(1)(B) will be routed to the magistrate judge who:

(1) will promptly examine the pleadings and documents related to the objection;

(2) may—

[A] conduct such further hearings as deemed necessary, and

[B] make additional, supplemental or substitute findings and recommendations; and

- (3) will, when the action deemed appropriate has been taken—  
[A] forward final findings and recommendations to the district judge, and  
[B] mail a copy to the parties.

**(c) Review by District Judge.**

- (1) Unless leave of court is obtained, for good cause shown:

[A] objections are limited to those matters fairly presented to or raised before the magistrate judge; and

[B] new matters or issues may not be raised for the first time in an objection to the findings and recommendations of a magistrate judge.

(2) The court may, on its own motion or the motion of any party, set the matter for a further evidentiary hearing before the district judge or it may remand the matter to the magistrate judge to take such further evidence as the district judge may deem necessary.

(3) A party requesting a further evidentiary hearing must serve and file a motion not later than three (3) days after the transcript of the record is certified, which motion must:

[A] describe the nature of the evidence to be proffered and its relevance to the specific objections; and

[B] contain a statement of the reason the proffered evidence could not be presented to the magistrate judge.

Related Provisions:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 28 U.S.C. § 636 | Jurisdiction, powers, and temporary assignment           |
| F.R.Cr.P. 59    | Matters Before a Magistrate Judge                        |
| D.Ak.LR 10.1    | Form of Pleadings and Other Papers                       |
| D.Ak.LMR 3      | Criminal Matters Routinely Assigned to Magistrate Judges |

**Rule 7 Trial by Consent**

Upon the written consent of all parties to the matter as provided in Rule 73, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, magistrate judges in this district are authorized to exercise the authority provided by 28 U.S.C. § 636(c).

Related Provisions:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 28 U.S.C. § 636 | Jurisdiction, powers and temporary assignments         |
| F.R.Civ.P. 73   | Magistrate Judges; Trial by Consent and Appeal Options |
| D.Ak. LMR 2     | Authority of Magistrate Judges.                        |