

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

**REFERRAL ORDER RC-72.4: CIVIL ACTIONS ASSIGNED TO CHIEF JUDGE RON
CLARK, SHERMAN DIVISION**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636 and the Local Rules of Court for the Assignment of Duties to United States Magistrate Judges, it is ORDERED:

CASES REFERRED

15% of the civil actions filed in the Sherman Division of the Eastern District of Texas and assigned to United States Chief Judge Ron Clark (excluding patent cases) are hereby **REFERRED** to United States Magistrate Judge Don Bush for all pre-trial proceedings.

PRETRIAL PROCEEDINGS

Judge Bush shall handle all pre-trial proceedings in cases referred under this Order. This shall include:

1. Hearing and determining all matters within the magistrate judge's dispositive jurisdiction;
2. Proceeding in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and (C) concerning matters excepted from the magistrate judge's dispositive jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §636(b)(1)(A); and
3. Issuing a report to the district judge indicating that the case is ready for trial, after approval of the final pre-trial order, in those cases in which the parties have not consented to the magistrate judge's jurisdiction.

Upon receipt of the report, the referral under this Order shall be withdrawn, and the case shall be returned to the undersigned for all further proceedings and entry of judgment.

In the event of recusal or other disqualification of Judge Bush in a case referred and assigned under this Order, the case shall return automatically to the docket of the undersigned, subject to further orders of the court.

CONSENT

Upon receipt of signed consent forms by all parties, the case shall be reassigned to Judge Bush, who shall conduct all proceedings, including jury and non-jury trials, and order the entry of judgment.

REFERRAL PROCEDURE

Case referrals, case reassignments, and withdrawals of referrals under this Order shall be effected immediately. Absent special circumstances, case-specific orders of reference, reassignment, and withdrawal shall not be entered. This Order does not affect General Order 15-17 or other established procedures for referral to magistrate judges of special category cases (e.g., preliminary motions to proceed in forma pauperis and for appointment of counsel in Title VII cases, prisoner cases, habeas cases, Social Security cases, pro se non-prisoner cases, etc.). Nothing herein shall preclude reference of additional matters to Judge Bush or the withdrawal of referrals in cases subject to this Order whenever appropriate.

So **ORDERED** and **SIGNED** on this 27 day of August, 2015.



RON CLARK
Chief Judge