

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

**STANDING ORDER ASSIGNING PRISONER CIVIL RIGHTS CASES  
FILED IN THE SHERMAN DIVISION TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

Effective February 1, 2025, and notwithstanding other case assignment orders of this Court, the Clerk will randomly assign, at the time of filing, each prisoner civil rights case filed in the Sherman Division to a magistrate judge in the Sherman Division to serve as presiding judge and send each party a form to consent to proceed before the magistrate judge upon the party's appearance in the case. The assigned magistrate judge may also separately invite party consent.

If the plaintiff consents to proceed before the magistrate judge, subject to the consent of each defendant, the magistrate judge is designated to exercise jurisdiction to conduct any and all proceedings as provided in 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), to conduct the trial of the case, and to order the entry of judgment in the case pursuant to *Neals v. Norwood*, 59 F.3d 530 (5th Cir. 1995). If the parties do not consent, the Clerk will randomly reassign the case to a district judge in the Sherman Division and automatically refer the case to the previously presiding magistrate judge for decisions on non-dispositive matters and findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a recommendation for the disposition of the case.

This order does not apply to any case that was filed before February 1, 2025.

**SO ORDERED and Effective as of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2025.**



AMOS L. MAZZANT, III  
United States District Judge



SEAN D. JORDAN  
United States District Judge