

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND**

IN RE:

PILOT PROJECT FOR DIRECT  
ASSIGNMENT OF CIVIL CASES  
TO MAGISTRATE JUDGES

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MISC. NO. 00-308

**STANDING ORDER 2019-07**

On September 26, 2018, this Court approved the adoption of a three-year pilot project to randomly assign a limited number of civil cases directly to the Magistrate Judges of this Court for all proceedings and the entry of a final judgment, subject to the consent of all parties, in order to increase the utilization of the Magistrate Judges and increase the availability of civil trials. After further review, the Court has found it appropriate to amend certain procedures of the pilot project. Accordingly, it is hereby

ORDERED by the United States District Court for the District of Maryland that Standing Order 2018-04 is RESCINDED; and it is further

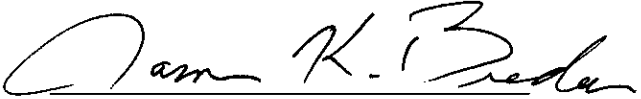
ORDERED that, effective November 1, 2018, and as amended effective November 6, 2019, the automated case assignment system for civil cases will be modified to allow for the random assignment of certain cases directly to a United States Magistrate Judge; and it is further

ORDERED that in all such cases directly assigned to a Magistrate Judge, the Clerk shall issue a notice upon the filing of a new civil action requiring the existing parties to file a response either consenting or declining consent to the assignment to a Magistrate Judge within fourteen (14) days. The Clerk shall issue a similar notice when any additional party enters an appearance or makes a filing. In the event that any party does not consent, the case shall immediately be reassigned to a District Judge. The Clerk shall withhold the identity of any non-consenting party

from the assigned Magistrate Judge and any District Judge to whom the case may be reassigned if consent from all the parties is not obtained; and it is further

ORDERED that this project shall continue for a period of three years effective November 1, 2018, absent further Order by the Court.

Nov. 6, 2019  
Date

  
James K. Bredar, Chief Judge  
United States District Court