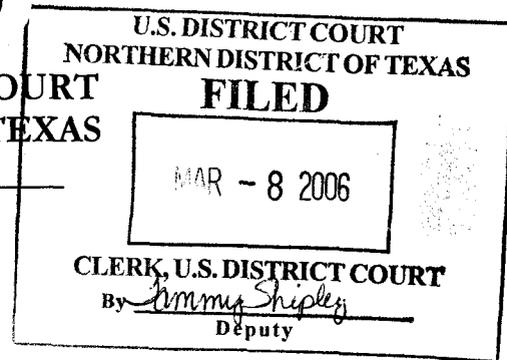


IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS



SPECIAL ORDER NO. 3-251

The Clerk's Office is directed to automatically refer at case opening certain types of matters to the resident magistrate judge for decisions as to non-dispositive matters and for findings and recommendations as to dispositive matters. In a division having more than one magistrate judge, the Clerk's Office will automatically refer each such matter to the magistrate judge to whom the case is preliminarily assigned.

The chart attached to this Order specifies each district judge's referral directive to the Clerk's Office. A district judge may modify the directive as it relates to that judge by notifying the Clerk's Office in writing. The Clerk's Office will modify the chart as necessary to reflect any such modification.

SO ORDERED this 8 day of March, 2006.

A. Joe Fish
A. JOE FISH, CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

CHART FOR AUTOMATIC REFERRAL OF CASES OR MATTERS TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE

| DISTRICT JUDGE: | Fitzwater | Robinson | Cummings | McBryde | Solis | Lindsay | Lynn | Godbey | Kinkeade | Boyle | O'Connor Fort Worth | O'Connor Wichita Falls | Fish | Means |
|---|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| CASE TYPE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IFP civil action | Refer | Refer ¹ | Do not refer | Refer ² | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer ³ | Refer ³ | Refer | Refer ³ |
| Fee paid pro se civil action (non-prisoner/ non-Social Security) other than a bankruptcy matter | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer |
| Fee paid Social Security case | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer ⁴ | Refer ⁴ | Refer | Refer ⁴ |
| Fee Paid Foreclosure Case | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer |
| Fee paid Prisoner Civil Rights or Prisoner Mandamus case | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer |
| Fee paid Habeas Corpus (§ 2254) case (except death penalty) | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer |
| Fee paid Habeas Corpus (§ 2241) case | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer |
| Habeas Corpus (§ 2255) case | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer ⁵ | Do not refer ⁵ | Refer | Do not refer |

1 Refer all motions for IFP to Magistrate Judge Averitte.

2 Refer IFP Social Security cases only. Referral is to Magistrate Judge Cureton.

3 Refer Wichita Falls (WF) and Fort Worth (FW) IFP Social Security cases to Magistrate Judge Frost. Do not refer WF IFP pro se or prisoner cases.

4 Refer fee paid Social Security cases to Magistrate Judge Frost.

5 Refer Judge O'Connor's Dallas § 2255 cases to Dallas magistrate judges.

CHART FOR AUTOMATIC REFERRAL OF CASES OR MATTERS TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE

| DISTRICT JUDGE: | Fitzwater | Robinson | Cummings | McBryde | Solis | Lindsay | Lynn | Godbey | Kinkeade | Boyle | O'Connor Fort Worth | O'Connor Wichita Falls | Fish | Means |
|--|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| CASE TYPE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Death Penalty Habeas Corpus case (opened on a petition) | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer |
| Death Penalty Habeas Corpus case (opened on a motion for stay or TRO) | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer |
| Death Penalty Habeas Corpus case (opened on a motion for appointment of counsel) | Do not refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer ⁶ | Refer ⁷ | Refer ⁷ | Refer ⁶ | Do not refer | Refer ⁷ | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer ⁷ | Do not refer |
| Motion for Certificate of Appealability | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer |
| Felony criminal cases (all initial proceedings up to arraignment) | Refer | Refer ⁸ | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer |
| Misdemeanor criminal cases ⁹ | Do not refer | Refer ⁸ | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Do not refer |
| Violation of condition of pretrial release – Dallas Division ¹⁰ | Refer | N/A | N/A | N/A | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Refer | Do not refer | Do not refer | Refer | N/A |

6 Refer motion to appoint counsel to Magistrate Judge Stickney. Send all other matters to the district judge.

7 Refer motion to appoint counsel to Magistrate Judge Stickney. Refer all other matters to the magistrate judge who was preliminarily assigned to the case.

8 Refer all pre-trial motions to Magistrate Judge Averitte except motions to continue the trial of the case, motions in limine, motions for psychiatric examinations, and except as otherwise ordered by the court.

9 Send all petty motions to a magistrate judge.

10 Refer to the magistrate judge who set the conditions of release.