

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

**GENERAL ORDER RE: DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT AND APPORTIONMENT OF CASES
AMONG UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGES**

It is hereby **ORDERED** that matters will be referred and assigned to United States Magistrate Judges in this district in the apportionments noted below:

I. Divisional Assignments and Apportionment

<u>Division</u>	<u>Magistrate Judge</u>
Beaumont	Hon. Zack Hawthorn = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
	Hon. Christine L. Stetson = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
Lufkin	Hon. John D. Love = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
	Hon. K. Nicole Mitchell = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
Marshall	Hon. Roy Payne = 100% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas
Sherman	<u>Case Assigned to Chief Judge Mazzant or Judge Jordan</u>
	Hon. Aileen Goldman Durrett = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2241, 2254, and 2255 Habeas
	Hon. Bill Davis = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2241, 2254, and 2255 Habeas

Case Assigned to Judge Truncala

Hon. Zack Hawthorn = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas

Hon. Christine L. Stetson = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas

Texarkana

Hon. Boone Baxter = 100% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas

Tyler

Hon. John D. Love = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas

Hon. K. Nicole Mitchell = 50% Criminal, Prisoner Civil Rights, Social Security, Pro Se Non-Prisoner, and 2254, 2241, and 2255 Habeas

II. Direct or Random Assignment

In divisions served by more than one magistrate judge, matters shall be referred and assigned as follows:

A. Civil Cases:

1. When a case is directly assigned to a district judge pursuant to general order, it shall be referred to the same magistrate judge to whom the related case was referred, if any. A case shall be assigned to the magistrate judge to whom the case originally was referred, if any, when parties consent to trial and entry of judgment by a magistrate judge.
2. All other civil matters shall be referred or assigned randomly except as specified above or unless a specific order of the court directs otherwise.

B. Criminal Cases:

1. Magistrate judges shall rotate responsibilities for handling unscheduled matters and cases processed through the Central Violations Bureau (CVB) so that each has equal duty time.

2. Except when governed by General Order 93-6:
 - a. Felony cases and Class A misdemeanor cases shall be assigned randomly to a magistrate judge when the case is filed except as specified above, and all proceedings through arraignment and appointments of counsel are referred, and
 - b. Class B and Class C misdemeanors and infractions, except CVB cases, shall be assigned to the duty magistrate judge at the time of defendants first appearance in this district.

III. Miscellaneous

- A. Assignment of additional duties to magistrate judges will be made as deemed appropriate.
- B. Transfers between magistrate judges to equalize dockets and for other appropriate reasons shall be entered from time to time upon concurrence of the transferee judge.
- C. This order supersedes all prior general orders governing divisional assignments and allocation of duties of magistrate judges. Individual district judge's ad hoc and standing orders governing specific referrals and assignments of cases to magistrate judges are unaffected by this order.

This general order supersedes its predecessor, General Order 25-03.

FOR THE COURT:

So ORDERED and EFFECTIVE as of the 1st day of September, 2026.


AMOS L. MAZZANT, III
CHIEF JUDGE