

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

FILED
January 20, 2015

GENERAL ORDER 15-1

**IN RE: CIVIL AND CRIMINAL MAGISTRATE JUDGE
CASE ASSIGNMENTS**

By unanimous agreement of the active and senior judges of this Court, it is hereby,

ORDERED as follows:

1. Regardless of the docket to which the case is assigned, and with the exception of death penalty cases which are referred by the Administrative Order regarding Death Penalty Cases, all (i) motions to vacate, correct or modify a sentence pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §2255; (ii) pro se civil rights cases; (iii) civil cases brought by and on behalf of prisoners; and (iv) petitions for writs of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §2254, shall be divided equally by a blind rotating draw and referred among full-time United States Magistrate Judges Edward B. Atkins, Robert E. Wier, Candace J. Smith, Hanly A. Ingram, and J. Gregory Wehrman.

2. All other cases on the Ashland docket shall be referred to Magistrate Judge Edward B. Atkins. If Magistrate Judge Atkins recuses from an Ashland case, the case is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Wier. If both magistrate judges recuse, the matter is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Smith.

3. All other cases on the Covington docket shall be referred based on the random case assignment blind draw set forth in Standing Order Misc. 15-1 filed on January 9, 2015. If Magistrate Judge Smith recuses from a Covington case, the case is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Wehrman. If Magistrate Judge Wehrman recuses from a Covington case, the case is

reassigned to Magistrate Judge Smith. If both magistrate judges recuse, the matter is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Wier.

4. All other civil cases on the Frankfort docket shall be referred to Magistrate Judge Atkins. If Magistrate Judge Atkins recuses from a Frankfort civil case, the case is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Wier. If both magistrate judges recuse, the matter is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Smith.

5. All other civil cases on the Lexington Docket, absent other agreement by the participating active and/or senior judges, shall be referred by blind draw to Magistrate Judge Wier (80%) and Magistrate Judge Atkins (20%). Should Magistrate Judge Wier recuse, the matter shall be reassigned to Magistrate Judge Atkins. Should Magistrate Judge Atkins recuse, the matter shall be reassigned to Magistrate Judge Ingram.

6. All criminal cases on the Lexington and Frankfort dockets shall be referred to Magistrate Judge Wier for initial proceedings. Upon completion of initial proceedings, and absent other agreement by the participating active and/or senior judges, criminal cases shall be assigned to Magistrate Judge Wier (80%) and Magistrate Judge Atkins (20%). The Clerk shall make the magistrate judge draw when Judge Wier so directs, upon completion of initial proceedings. Should Magistrate Judge Wier recuse, the matter shall be reassigned to Magistrate Judge Atkins. Should Magistrate Judge Atkins recuse, the matter shall be reassigned to Magistrate Judge Ingram.

7. All other cases on the London docket shall be referred to Magistrate Judge Ingram. If Magistrate Judge Ingram recuses from a London case, the case is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Atkins. If both magistrate judges recuse, the matter is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Wier.

8. All other cases on the Pikeville docket shall be referred to Magistrate Judge Atkins. If Magistrate Judge Atkins recuses from a Pikeville case, the case is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Ingram. If both magistrate judges recuse, the matter is reassigned to Magistrate Judge Smith.

9. To the fullest extent possible, the United States magistrate judges shall conduct proceedings in all matters assigned to them at the location where the case is docketed.

10. The United States magistrate judges are authorized to reassign any of their assigned cases to another magistrate judge willing to accept it.

11. This Order shall supersede the Court's General Order 10-14, filed July 27, 2010, regarding the work of the magistrate judges of this Court.

Dated January 20, 2015.



Karen K. Caldwell

KAREN K. CALDWELL, CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY