


DEC 03 2024

By Ronald E. Dowling 
Deputy Clerk

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS

IN RE: REFERRAL OF CASES TO THE MAGISTRATE JUDGES

GENERAL ORDER 2024-05

(supersedes General Order No. 22, dated October 19, 2010)

The Clerk of Court is hereby directed to refer the following cases to the magistrate judges for the Western District of Arkansas:

- (1) Cases involving the granting of benefits to claimants under the Social Security Act and brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 405(g) and matters related to this Act (as outlined in General Order 42, dated January 17, 2013);
- (2) Applications for post-trial relief made by individuals convicted of criminal offenses filed pursuant to 28 U.S.D. § 2254; and
- (3) Prisoner petitions filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (as outlined in General Order 2024-02, dated July 10, 2024).

The magistrate judges shall, as appropriate, conduct hearings, including evidentiary hearings, and submit proposed findings of fact and recommendations for disposition by the presiding district judge, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and the Local Rules of the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas.

The Clerk of Court is also directed to file upon receipt, any tendered pleading for the initiation of an *in forma pauperis*. The Clerk of Court is further directed to refer to the magistrate judges for the Western District of Arkansas such pleadings and all applications to proceed *in forma pauperis* for the initiation of civil actions and whether service of process shall issue, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1915, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A), and the Local Rules for the United States District

Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas. Further, should the magistrate judge determine that no service of process is required the magistrate judge should submit a report and recommendation regarding the disposition of the case in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B).

This order supersedes all previous versions of General Order No. 22.

Dated this 3rd day of December, 2024.



Susan O. Hickey
Chief United States District Judge