

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

In re: Administrative Orders of the Chief Judge

Case No. 3:21-mc-1-TJC

**ORDER OF REFERENCE OF CASES ARISING UNDER
TITLE 11, UNITED STATES CODE, AND DESIGNATING BANKRUPTCY
JUDGES TO CONDUCT JURY TRIALS AND ACT AS SETTLEMENT JUDGES¹**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(a), any or all cases under title 11 and any or all proceedings arising under title 11 or arising in or related to a case under title 11 are referred to the bankruptcy judges for this District.

If a bankruptcy judge or district judge determines that entry of a final order or judgment by a bankruptcy judge would not be consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution in a particular proceeding referred under this Order and determined to be a core matter, the bankruptcy judge shall, unless otherwise ordered by the District Court, hear the proceeding and submit proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law to the District Court. The bankruptcy judge's findings of fact and conclusions of law shall be made in compliance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 52(a)(1) in the form of findings and conclusions stated on the record or in an opinion or memorandum of decision.

The District Court may treat any order of the Bankruptcy Court as proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law if the District Court concludes that the bankruptcy

¹ This Order amends and supersedes the *Standing Order of Reference of Cases Arising Under Title 11, United States Code*, 12-MC-26-ORL-22, and the *Standing Order re Designation of Bankruptcy Judges to Conduct Jury Trials*, 94-127-MISC-J-16.

judge could not have entered a final order or judgment consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.

Additionally, this Court having considered the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1994, enacted into law on October 22, 1994, finds that § 112 of the Reform Act added subclause (e) to 28 U.S.C. § 157 to provide that if a jury trial applies in a proceeding that may be heard by a bankruptcy judge, the bankruptcy judge may conduct a jury trial if specially designated to exercise such jurisdiction with the express consent of all parties and may thereafter enter a final judgment.

Finally, this Court authorizes bankruptcy judges, as part of the performance of their judicial duties, to act as settlement judges. To the extent necessary or appropriate to give effect to this aspect of the reference, all bankruptcy judges for the District are designated as possible judicial neutrals pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 651-658.

DONE AND ORDERED in Jacksonville, Florida, the 29th day of October, 2024.



Timothy J. Corrigan

TIMOTHY J. CORRIGAN
Chief United States District Judge