

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

In re: Administrative Orders of the Chief Judge

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

**ORDER REGARDING CONSENT TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
JURISDICTION IN SOCIAL SECURITY APPEALS**

Under [28 U.S.C. § 636\(c\)](#) and this Court's Administrative Orders, United States Magistrate Judges are authorized to exercise jurisdiction and preside over civil cases with the consent of all parties. The United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida has agreed to a general consent on behalf of the United States to the jurisdiction of United States Magistrate Judges in the Middle District of Florida over social security disability cases, reserving the right to withdraw the consent in any particular case. The United States also reserves the right to withdraw the general consent upon notice, but such withdrawal will apply only to cases filed after the date of the notice. See attached letter, dated July 24, 2023.

In light of the United States' general consent to United States Magistrate Judge jurisdiction over social security disability appeals in the Middle District of Florida, if a plaintiff consents at case opening, and if the United States does not withdraw its consent, the case shall be randomly assigned directly to a United States Magistrate Judge without the necessity of an Order of Reference.

If the plaintiff declines to consent, or if the United States timely withdraws its consent, the Clerk shall randomly assign the case to a United States District

Judge. In that event, the case shall be deemed referred, without further order, to the same United States Magistrate Judge for all preliminary proceedings, and for the preparation of a Report and Recommendation.

DONE AND ORDERED at Jacksonville, Florida on November 15, 2023.



*Timothy J. Corrigan*

TIMOTHY J. CORRIGAN  
Chief United States District Judge

attachment

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RBH

July 24, 2023

The Honorable Timothy Corrigan  
Chief Judge, United States District Court  
Middle District of Florida

Re: General Consent to Magistrate Judge Jurisdiction in Social Security Appeals

Dear Chief Judge Corrigan:

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), the United States hereby consents to the jurisdiction of magistrate judges to preside over all social security disability appeals filed in the Middle District of Florida. The United States reserves its right to withdraw its consent in any individual case. In addition, upon written notice to the Chief Judge, the United States may withdraw this general consent, but such withdrawal will apply only to cases filed after the date of the notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Handberg".

Roger B. Handberg  
United States Attorney