

8/27, 2024

By Joanne Pesta  
Deputy Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER RE: CASE ASSIGNMENT**

This Order describes certain rules and procedures regarding the distribution of civil and criminal cases in this District.

I. Civil Assignment: The District of Connecticut uses an automated case assignment system that assigns District Judges and Magistrate Judges in a random sequence from one district-wide deck. Both a District Judge and a Magistrate Judge will be randomly assigned to each new civil case when it is initially filed. Once a Magistrate Judge is randomly assigned to a case, the District Judge may file orders of referral of non-settlement pretrial matters to the Magistrate Judge as the District Judge sees fit. Once there is a referral, the same Magistrate Judge will receive all future referred matters in that case, except settlement conferences. The Magistrate Judge randomly assigned to the case when it is initially filed will not receive the case for settlement.

II. Criminal Assignment: The District of Connecticut uses an automated case assignment system for criminal cases that randomly assigns District Judges and Magistrate Judges in a random sequence from one district-wide deck.

III. Related Cases: Cases identified by a litigant in a civil case, or by the prosecution or defense in a criminal case, as “related” to another pending case shall nevertheless be assigned to a District Judge or Magistrate Judge in the regular rotation in the normal course. The District Judge or Magistrate Judge shall thereafter determine, either sua sponte or on motion, whether the assertedly “related” case shall be transferred to the docket of a District Judge or Magistrate Judge having an earlier filed, “related” case.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 27th day of August 2024.

/s/ Michael P. Shea

Michael P. Shea  
Chief United States District Judge