FILED
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
Nov 09, 2026

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

IN RE: CASE ASSIGNMENTS.) **Administrative Order No. 459**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

To ensure the Court's docket is handled efficiently and expeditiously and as part of the district's ongoing effort to equalize the distribution of cases, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 137, effective November 9, 2026, the work of the Court shall be distributed as set forth below.[1]

Criminal Assignments

All new East St. Louis criminal cases shall be divided among the undersigned, District Judge David W. Dugan, District Judge Stephen P. McGlynn, and District Judge Nancy J. Rosenstengel randomly and equally at 25 percent each. All new Benton criminal cases shall be divided among the undersigned and Senior District Judge J. Phil Gilbert randomly and equally.

Civil Assignments

Except as specified below, all civil cases will be assigned randomly and equally to all district judges. This includes (1) any new civil action requesting declaratory judgment and/or the imposition of a temporary restraining order or any form of injunctive relief,

[1] This Administrative Order **SUPERSEDES** and **VACATES** Administrative Orders 447. For ease of reference, all changes to case assignments in this Order are underlined.

(2) forfeiture and seizure cases (Nature of Suit Codes 625 and 690), (3) bankruptcy appeals (Nature of Suit Codes 422 and 423), and (4) foreclosure cases (Nature of Suit Code 220).

Newly filed non-prisoner *pro se* civil cases, habeas cases (Nature of Suit Codes 463, 510, 530 and 535) and prisoner cases (Nature of Suit Codes 540, 550, 555, and 560), shall also be assigned equally and randomly to all district judges with one exception. Senior U.S. District Judge J. Phil Gilbert will be assigned all newly filed prisoner cases brought under Nature of Suit Codes 540, 550, 555, and 560 and naming employees of the Bureau of Prisons or any county jail and/or those institutions as defendant(s). Upon entry into a case, each party in a newly filed non-prisoner *pro se* civil case, habeas case, or prisoner case will be sent a Notice and Consent to Proceed Before a Magistrate Judge Jurisdiction form regarding consenting to the jurisdiction of one of the district's three magistrate judges. The Clerk's Office shall not send a Notice and Consent to Proceed Before a Magistrate Judge Jurisdiction form in prisoner cases brought under Nature of Suit Codes 540, 550, 555, and 560 and naming employees of and/or the Bureau of Prisons as defendant(s). Each party will be given **21 days** to file the completed form indicating ***consent*** or ***non-consent*** to the jurisdiction of a magistrate judge conducting all proceedings, including trial and entry of final judgment in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). Upon the consent of all parties in a case, and ***only*** if a non-prisoner *pro se* civil case or habeas corpus case survives threshold review, the case will be randomly and equally assigned to a magistrate judge for all further proceedings consistent with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). If all parties do not consent to the magistrate judge's jurisdiction, the case will remain with the presiding district judge. At the district judge's discretion, a

motion or matter may be specifically referred to a magistrate judge or a special master in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 636(b)(1)-(3) and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 53. Subsequent consents by all parties to the jurisdiction of a magistrate judge will not be accepted.

Newly filed Social Security cases (Nature of Suit Codes 861 through 865) will be assigned to all active district and magistrate judges (consistent with 28 U.S.C. § 636) randomly and in an equal manner. If initially assigned to a magistrate judge, upon entry into a case, each party will receive a Notice and Consent to Proceed Before a Magistrate Judge Jurisdiction form regarding consenting to the jurisdiction of one of the district's three magistrate judges. Each party will be given **21 days** to file the completed form indicating ***consent*** or ***non-consent*** to the jurisdiction of the assigned magistrate judge conducting all proceedings, including trial and entry of final judgment in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). Upon the consent of all parties in a case, the case and jurisdiction will remain with the magistrate judge assigned to the case. If all parties do not consent to the magistrate judge's jurisdiction, the case will be randomly assigned to a district judge for all further proceedings. The Court will not send a Notice and Consent to Proceed Before a Magistrate Judge Jurisdiction form to cases initially assigned to a district judge. At the district judge's discretion, a motion or matter may be specifically referred to any one of the district's three magistrate judges or a special master in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 636(b)(1)-(3) and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 53. Subsequent consents by all parties to the jurisdiction of a magistrate judge will not be accepted.

All newly filed non-prisoner, non-*pro se* civil cases shall be assigned to all district and magistrate judges (consistent with 28 U.S.C. § 636) randomly and in an equal manner. Upon entry into a case, each party will be sent a Notice and Consent to Proceed Before a Magistrate Judge Jurisdiction form regarding consenting to the jurisdiction of one of the district's three magistrate judges. Each party will be given **21 days** to file the completed form indicating ***consent*** or ***non-consent*** to the jurisdiction of a magistrate judge conducting all proceedings, including trial and entry of final judgment in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). Upon the consent of all parties in a case, the case and jurisdiction will remain with the magistrate judge assigned to the case or, if initially assigned to a district judge, the case will be randomly assigned to one of the three magistrate judges. If all parties **do not consent** to the magistrate judge's jurisdiction, the case will remain with the assigned district judge or, if initially assigned to a magistrate judge, the case will be randomly assigned to a district judge for all further proceedings. At the district judge's discretion, a motion or matter may be specifically referred to any one of the three district's magistrate judges or a special master in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 636(b)(1)-(3) and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 53. Subsequent consents by all parties to the jurisdiction of a magistrate judge will not be accepted.

Judge-Specific Assignments

For judicial economy and efficiency reasons, the following judges shall preside over certain cases:

- District Judge Nancy J. Rosenstengel shall continue to preside over all cases involving the synthetic chemical compound Paraquat Dichloride (MDL No. 3004).

- The undersigned shall continue to preside over all cases filed against Honeywell International, Inc., alleging personal injury and/or property damage from hazardous gas emitting from a plant in Metropolis, Illinois.

- The undersigned shall continue to preside over all asbestos cases.

- District Judge Stephen P. McGlynn shall continue to preside over all newly filed civil cases challenging the legality and/or constitutionality of Illinois statute 720 Ill. Comp. Stat. 5/24-1.9, criminalizing the manufacture, possession, delivery, sale, or purchase of certain firearms.

- District Judge Nancy J. Rosenstengel shall continue to preside over all cases against Federal Express Corporation asserting the same or similar claim under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. § 301, et seq.

- District Judge Stephen P. McGlynn shall continue to preside over all newly filed civil cases removed by or filed against Pfizer Inc., Pharmacia LLC, and Pharmacia & UpJohn Company, LLC, et al., asserting personal injury claims connected to the drug Depo-Provera.

Any civil case currently assigned to a former or retired magistrate judge shall be reassigned among the district's three magistrate judges equally and randomly. Any criminal case currently assigned to a former or retired magistrate judge shall be reassigned to the duty magistrate judge. Any cases assigned to retired District Judge Michael J. Reagan shall be reassigned to District Judge Stephen P. McGlynn; any cases assigned to retired District Judge David R. Herndon shall be reassigned to District Judge David W. Dugan. All other criminal or civil cases assigned to former or retired district judges shall be reassigned among the district judges equally and randomly, unless otherwise noted in this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: November 9, 2026



STACI M. YANDLE
Chief U.S. District Judge