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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

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IN THE MATTER OF: GENERAL CONSENT OF THE UNITED STATES REGARDING MAGISTRATE JUDGE AUTHORITY TO DECIDE SOCIAL SECURITY APPEALS	GENERAL ORDER 21-005
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In June 2014, the court began assigning all cases seeking judicial review of decisions of the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration to magistrate judges under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). The magistrate judges exercise jurisdiction in these cases only if all parties consent to their jurisdiction. The implementation of this case-assignment process has maximized the use of available judicial resources and resulted in the expeditious resolution of these matters.

Recently, the United States Attorney Office for the District of Utah expressed its willingness to provide its ongoing “general consent” to the jurisdiction of a magistrate judge in all cases seeking judicial review of decisions of the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, thereby eliminating the need to obtain consent from the United States in each case.

Accordingly, to avoid the unnecessary expenditure of time relating to the preparation and filing of the consent paperwork, the court HEREBY ORDERS the following:

1. The court will continue to assign all cases seeking review of a decision of the Commissioner of Social Security Administration directly and randomly to a magistrate judge to preside over the case.
2. At case opening, the Clerk’s Office will mail a “Notice of Assignment to a

United States Magistrate Judge and Request for Consent/Reassignment” form to the plaintiff.

3. To consent to the jurisdiction of the magistrate judge, the plaintiff must return the signed form within 21 days after the Clerk’s Office mails it. The plaintiff must not file the signed form in the case docket but instead must send the completed form in PDF format to the Clerk’s Office via email to [consents@utd.uscourts.gov](mailto:consents@utd.uscourts.gov) or by mail to:

United States District Court  
District of Utah  
Orrin G. Hatch United States Courthouse  
Attention: Consent Clerk  
351 S. West Temple Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

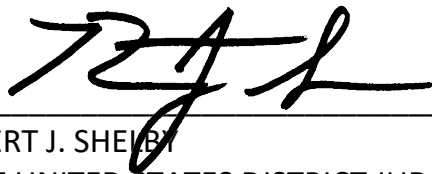
4. The Clerk’s Office will not mail a form to the United States because it has given its “general consent” to the jurisdiction of the magistrate judge to preside over these cases. *See* attached General Consent. The United States, however, has reserved the right to withdraw that consent in any individual case and to withdraw its general consent.
5. The United States must submit any withdrawal of consent no later than 21 days after the Clerk’s Office mails the form to the plaintiff, which date is reflected on the case docket. If the United States withdraws its consent, it must not file the withdrawal form in the case docket. Instead, it must send the completed form in PDF format to the Clerk’s Office at the email or mail address listed above.
6. The consent clerk will docket the plaintiff’s consent form only if the plaintiff consents and the United States does not withdraw its consent.
7. If the United States timely withdraws its consent, or if the plaintiff fails to consent or fails to return the form, the clerk will reassign the case to a district judge and will enter an Order of Referral under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) to the

magistrate judge to whom the case had initially been assigned. The parties' forms will not be made part of the court record.

8. There will be no adverse consequences to a party who declines to consent.

SO ORDERED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2021.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RJS', is written over a horizontal line.

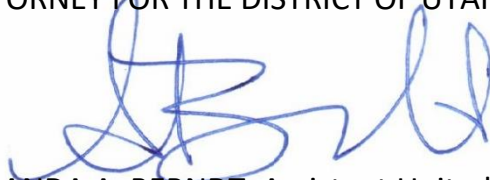
ROBERT J. SHELBY  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

**GENERAL CONSENT OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH  
REGARDING THE JURISDICTION OF MAGISTRATE JUDGES TO PRESIDE OVER ALL CASES  
SEEKING JUDICIAL REVIEW OF DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE SOCIAL  
SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

Andrea T. Martinez, Acting United States Attorney for the District of Utah, or her designee, on behalf of the United States, hereby generally consents to the jurisdiction of magistrate judges in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c) to preside over all cases seeking judicial review of decisions of the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration. The United States, however, reserves the right to withdraw its consent in any of these cases and to withdraw its general consent. The United States acknowledges that it must submit a withdrawal of consent no later than 21 days after the Clerk's Office mails the Notice of Assignment to a United States Magistrate Judge and Request for Consent/ Reassignment form to the plaintiff in these cases. In the event the United States withdraws its general consent, it will provide notice to the Clerk of Court at least 30 days before the withdrawal of its general consent becomes effective.

DATED this 21st day of April, 2021.

ANDREA T. MARTINEZ, ACTING UNITED STATES  
ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH:



AMANDA A. BERNDT, Assistant United States  
Attorney, as designee for the Acting United  
States Attorney for the District of Utah