## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

With the parties' consent, a district judge under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c) can refer any civil matter to a magistrate judge for any or all proceedings, including the resolution of any motion, a jury or non-jury trial, and entry of final judgment. Although the same law, rules, and procedure govern before both the district judge and the magistrate judge, reference to the magistrate judge often results in an earlier and more reliable trial date (a magistrate judge's trial calendar need not accommodate criminal trials, which are subject to the requirement of constitutional and statutory "speedy trial"). A final judgment entered by the magistrate judge is appealable directly to the United States Court of Appeals.

The parties can formalize consent to the magistrate judge on an AO 85 "Notice, Consent, and Reference of a Civil Action to a Magistrate Judge," a copy of which is attached. Consent requires the signature of each party's counsel and the signature of any unrepresented party. The district judges of the Middle District of Florida request that each party and each counsel carefully consider the benefits to the public, to the court, and to the parties of consent to proceed before the magistrate judge. Of course, consent is entirely voluntary, and — without any adverse substantive consequence — a party for any reason can withhold consent and continue the action before the district judge.

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Steven D. Merryday Chief United States District Judge

Virginia M. Hernandez Covington United States District Judge

Mary \$. Scriven

United States District Judge

Roy B. Dalton, Jr.

United States District Judge

Brian J. Davis

United States District Judge

Carlos E. Mendoza United States District Judge

Drela

Thomas P. Barber United States District Judge

Timothy J. Corrigan

United States District Judge

Marcia Morales Howard

United States District Judge

Charlene Edwards Honeywell

United States District Judge

Sheri Polster Chappell

United States District Judge

Paul G. Byron

United States District Judge

William F. Jung Iudge United States Distr

Wendy W. Berger United States District Judge

UNITED	STATES DISTRICT COURT
	District of
Plaintiff V. Defendant	) ) ) ) ) (ivil Action No. ) )

## NOTICE, CONSENT, AND REFERENCE OF A DISPOSITIVE MOTION TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE

*Notice of a magistrate judge's availability.* A United States magistrate judge of this court is available to conduct all proceedings and enter a final order dispositive of each motion. A magistrate judge may exercise this authority only if all parties voluntarily consent.

You may consent to have motions referred to a magistrate judge, or you may withhold your consent without adverse substantive consequences. The name of any party withholding consent will not be revealed to any judge who may otherwise be involved with your case.

*Consent to a magistrate judge's consideration of a dispositive motion.* The following parties consent to have a United States magistrate judge conduct any and all proceedings and enter a final order as to each motion identified below *(identify each motion by document number and title).* 

Motions:		
Printed names of parties and attorneys	Signatures of parties or attorneys	Dates
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## **Reference Order**

**IT IS ORDERED:** The motions are referred to a United States magistrate judge to conduct all proceedings and enter a final order on the motions identified above in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c).

Date:

District Judge's signature

Printed name and title

Note: Return this form to the clerk of court only if you are consenting to the exercise of jurisdiction by a United States magistrate judge. Do not return this form to a judge.