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5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
6 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

7 In Re:

8 CONSENT TO MAGISTRATE JUDGES

9 GENERAL ORDER NO. 05-17
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12 The Judges of the United States District Court for the Western District of
13 Washington have approved new procedures for consent to U.S. Magistrate Judges. The
14 goal of these new procedures is to increase the percentage of consent cases.
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16 This Court direct assigns a percentage of all civil cases to its U.S. Magistrate
17 Judges. Consent to a Magistrate Judge is voluntary. When a case is direct assigned to a
18 Magistrate Judge, all parties are provided with a consent form. Any party may decline
19 consent by signing and returning the consent form to the Court.
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21 Effective as of the date of this Order, **each party will be deemed to have**
22 **knowingly, and voluntarily, consented to proceed before the assigned Magistrate**
23 **Judge if the consent form is not returned by the date stated on the form.**
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25 If a party declines consent, the identity of the party declining consent will not be
26 communicated to any judge, and the clerk will immediately reassign the case to a
27 district judge by random selection.
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1 This General Order supersedes the Court's Local Magistrate Judge Rule 13 to the
2 extent that Rule provides that failing to return the form will be deemed as a non-
3 consent.

4 This new procedure shall apply to all civil cases filed after June 1, 2017, that
5 have been randomly assigned to a U.S. Magistrate Judge.
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7 The new consent procedures and forms are available on the Court's web site,
8 <http://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/attorneys/civil-consent-procedures>
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11 **IT IS SO ORDERED** this 19th day of May, 2017.

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15 **RICARDO S. MARTINEZ**
16 **CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**
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