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5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
6 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

7 In Re:

8 CONSENT TO MAGISTRATE JUDGES

AMENDED GENERAL
ORDER NO. 05-17

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11 The Judges of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
12 have approved new procedures for consent to U.S. Magistrate Judges. The goal of this new
13 procedure is to increase the percentage of consent cases.

14 This Court currently direct assigns approximately 12% of all civil cases to its U.S.
15 Magistrate Judges. Consent to a Magistrate Judge is voluntary. When a case is direct assigned
16 to a Magistrate Judge, all parties are provided with a consent form. Any party may decline
17 consent by signing and returning the consent form to the Court.

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19 Effective as of the date of this Order, **each party will be deemed to have knowingly**
20 **and voluntarily consented to proceed before the assigned Magistrate Judge, if the consent**
21 **form is not returned by the date stated on the form.**

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23 If a party declines consent, the identity of the party declining consent will not be
24 communicated to any judge, and the clerk will immediately reassign the case to a district judge
25 by random selection.
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1 This General Order supersedes both 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-consent, and
3 Amended General Order 01-15, paragraph 4 to the extent that paragraph provides the same.

4 This new procedure shall apply to all civil cases filed after the effective date of this Order
5 that have been automatically assigned to a U.S. Magistrate Judge.
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7 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

8 DATED this 29th day of June, 2017.

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12 RICARDO S. MARTINEZ
13 CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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