

**NOTICE OF OPTION TO CONSENT TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE JURISDICTION**

In order to encourage the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of 42 U.S.C. § 1983 cases filed in this district, the parties may waive their right to proceed before a district judge and consent to proceed before a magistrate judge for all purposes. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), upon the consent of all the parties to proceed before a magistrate judge for all purposes, the magistrate judge assigned to this case will conduct all proceedings, decide all dispositive and non-dispositive matters, preside over a court or jury trial and enter judgment. The party who does not prevail may appeal directly to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in the same manner as an appeal from the final judgment of a district judge.

Magistrate judges are selected through a statutorily prescribed merit selection process and are appointed by the judges of this court. The court encourages the parties to consent to magistrate judge jurisdiction as it may result in an earlier resolution of the matter. Because of different calendar pressures, magistrate judges may be able to set hearings and trials on a date certain and sooner than district judges. But you are free to decline consent to magistrate judge jurisdiction. Please indicate on the attached form whether you consent or decline to consent to magistrate judge jurisdiction.