

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
FORT MYERS DIVISION

DAVID ADAMS and CYNTHIA ADAMS,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No: 2:15-cv-620-FtM-38MRM

JAMES E. ALBERTELLI, P.A. and
KATE MUNKITTRICK,

Defendants.

NOTICE¹

This matter comes before the Court on review of the file. In the Case Management Report, the parties noted that they would likely consent to the reference of this case to the United States magistrate judge. (Doc. 28). Since then, the parties reached impasse at mediation (Doc. 33) and discovery closed (Doc. 31). This Notice follows up on the parties' indication of possible consent to the magistrate judge.

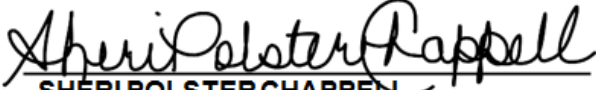
To assist the federal courts in coping with dramatically increased caseload, Congress authorized the reference to a magistrate judge of any or all of the proceedings in a civil case upon consent of all parties. See [28 U.S.C. § 636](#). Because of the heavy caseload in the Middle District of Florida, district judges refer cases to their able and

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experienced magistrate judges, who can generally schedule early and firm trial dates in accordance with the needs of the parties.² **However, the decision to consent is entirely the parties' decision, and any party may withhold consent with no adverse consequences.**

Accordingly, if the parties wish to consent to the assigned United States Magistrate Judge, the Court requests they file the "Notice, Consent, and Reference of a Civil Action to a Magistrate Judge" form found its [website](#) by **February 22, 2017**.

DONE and **ORDERED** in Fort Myers, Florida this 8th day of February 2017.


SHERI POLSTER CHAPPELL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Copies: All Parties of Record

² The undersigned is currently the only active district court judge in the Fort Myers division, and likely will be for the near future. The undersigned's trial calendar is demanding rivaled only by its motions and case management obligations.