

**FILED**

**APR 02 2018**

AT 8:30 \_\_\_\_\_ M  
WILLIAM T. WALSH  
CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

IN RE:

SOCIAL SECURITY PILOT PROJECT

STANDING ORDER 18-2

Considering that a significant number of cases seeking review of the Commissioner of Social Security's decision denying an application for benefits ("SSA appeals") are filed in this District, and that the Court and United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey ("United States") share an interest in facilitating the efficient resolution of such appeals; and considering that the United States has agreed to participate in a Pilot Project for the assignment of SSA appeals; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 73, parties to an SSA appeal may consent to the appeal being decided by a Magistrate Judge of this District, with judgment entered following the Magistrate Judge's decision on the SSA appeal, and with appeals from the Magistrate Judge's ruling being directly to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals ("Magistrate Judge jurisdiction"); and

WHEREAS, the Court has retained Recalled Magistrate Judges for the express purpose of deciding SSA appeals during the period of this Pilot Project; and

WHEREAS, the United States has indicated its general consent to Magistrate Judge jurisdiction in cases of this nature, subject to its reserved rights to withdraw the consent in a given case and to withdraw its general consent;

IT IS, on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of APRIL, 2018, ORDERED that:

The plaintiff may file his/her consent to Magistrate Judge jurisdiction by signing and filing the consent form attached hereto, no later than (30) days from the date of issuance of the Proposed Consent to Jurisdiction of a Magistrate Judge SSA; and that

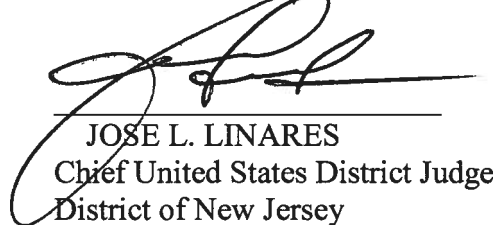
If the plaintiff timely consents to Magistrate Judge jurisdiction, the case shall be deemed assigned to a Recalled Magistrate Judge without the necessity of an order of referral; and that

If the plaintiff does not timely consent to Magistrate Judge jurisdiction, the SSA appeal will likewise be assigned to a Recalled Magistrate Judge but the Recalled Magistrate Judge will prepare a Report and Recommendation, which may be reviewed de novo by a district judge, rather than being directly appealable to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pending assignment to a Recalled Magistrate Judge, all SSA appeals will be temporarily assigned to the docket of the Chief Judge; and

The Court reserves the right to modify this order from time to time, or to rescind the order entirely, as the Court determines in light of experience.

FOR THE COURT:



JOSE L. LINARES  
Chief United States District Judge  
District of New Jersey