

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE DIVISION) General Order 16-3
OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES)

GENERAL ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 15, 2016:

1. The Clerk of Court shall divide all civil cases into three categories for the random assignment of cases to the judges of this district as follows:

Category 1. Actions arising under U.S.C. §§ 2241 and 2254, social security appeals, pro se prisoner cases, appeals from Bankruptcy Court, and any action requesting preliminary injunctive relief:

Judge James H. Payne	14 cases in 42
Judge Ronald A. White	28 cases in 42

Category 2. All death penalty actions:

Judge James H. Payne	2 cases in 5
Judge Ronald A. White	3 cases in 5

Category 3. All other civil actions:

Judge James H. Payne	14 cases in 92
Judge Ronald A. White	28 cases in 92
Magistrate Judge Kimberly E. West	25 cases in 92
Magistrate Judge Steven P. Shreder	25 cases in 92

All cases in Category 3 will be subject to Misc. Order No. 03-08 (as hereby amended to reflect the assignment of 25 cases in 92 to each of the two Magistrate Judges).

When companion cases are filed, i.e., cases involving the same transaction regardless of parties, at first knowledge of such fact, the affected judges shall be notified. In the event the judges mutually agree as to the companion nature of the actions and the transfer of same, the cases shall be assigned or transferred to the judge receiving the lowest case number.

2. With respect to opt-out ("District Court Judge Option") cases from the Magistrate Judges' original draw under Category 3, the Clerk of Court is directed to randomly assign cases to the District Judges as follows:

Judge James H. Payne	14 cases in 42
Judge Ronald A. White	28 cases in 42

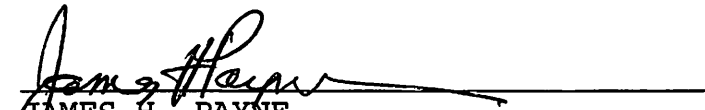
3. The Clerk of Court is directed to randomly assign criminal cases to the District Judges as follows:

Judge James H. Payne	25 cases in 75
Judge Ronald A. White	50 cases in 75

Judges James H. Payne, Ronald A. White, Kimberly E. West, or Steven P. Shreder will call all Grand Jury sessions, with a Magistrate Judge conducting all initial appearances and arraignments in criminal cases.

4. With the exception of Misc. Order No. 03-08, all previous orders regarding division of cases are rescinded.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 15th day of September, 2016.


JAMES H. PAYNE
Chief United States District Judge