

United States District Court
District of Connecticut
FILED AT NEW HAVEN

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FILED
SEP 30 2020

September 30 2020
Robin D. Tabora, Clerk

ORDER

Clerk, U.S. District & Bankruptcy
Courts for the District of Columbia

by 
Deputy Clerk

In the Matter of the Designation of a Magistrate Judge
from Another District for Service in this District

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(f), in an emergency and upon the concurrence of the chief judges of the districts involved, a United States magistrate judge may be temporarily assigned to perform any of the duties specified in subsections 28 U.S.C. § 636(a)-(c) in a judicial district other than the judicial district for which he or she has been appointed. No magistrate judge shall perform any of such duties in a district to which he or she has been temporarily assigned until an order has been issued by the chief judge of such district specifying the emergency by reason of which the magistrate judge is being transferred, the duration of his or her assignment, and the duties which he or she is authorized to perform.

Due to current exigencies in the District of Columbia, a magistrate judge from another district is needed to assist in the review and determination of foreign requests for assistance in criminal investigations and prosecutions filed pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3512, as well as in the review and determination of other government applications relating to criminal investigative matters. This Court has the lowest ratio of magistrate judges to district judges in the country, and the volume of criminal investigative applications, both foreign and domestic, filed in this district is overwhelming our three magistrate judges. Moreover, the number of criminal cases filed in this district, along with related investigative applications, is expected to increase sharply imminently due to changes in the charging policies of this district's United States Attorney designed to combat a recent rise in the homicide rate here.

Based on the foregoing, the Court certifies the need for assistance from a visiting United States magistrate judge from the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Honorable Timothy R. Rice, for a period of six months. The Court anticipates that Magistrate Judge Rice will provide assistance remotely, as the applications to be reviewed may be filed, reviewed, and processed electronically.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED, with the concurrence of the Honorable, Chief Judge Stefan R. Underhill of the District of Connecticut, that United States Magistrate Judge Holly B. Fitzsimmons is hereby designated to hold court and perform any and all judicial duties designated under 28 U.S.C. §636(a)-(c), on an as needed basis, in the District of Columbia (including remotely from the District of Connecticut) for a period from October 1, 2020 to April 1, 2021.

Dated this 30th day of September, 2020



/s/ Beryl A. Howell

Beryl A. Howell, Chief Judge
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia