

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**NOTICE OF PROCEDURE TO CONSENT TO REFERENCE OF
CIVIL ACTION OR PROCEEDING TO MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

1. When authorized under 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), a magistrate judge may, if all parties consent, and if it is approved by the district judge to whom the case is assigned, conduct a civil action or proceeding, including a jury or non-jury trial or proceeding [Fed. R. Civ. P. 73(a); Local R. Civ. P. 72.1 III.(b)].
2. A party is free to withhold consent to referral to a magistrate judge without adverse substantive consequences [Fed. R. Civ. P. 73(b)(2)].
3. A party's decision to consent, or not to consent, will not be made known to the assigned judge or magistrate judge unless the parties have consented to the reference to the magistrate judge [Fed. R. Civ. P. 73(b)(1); Local R. Civ. P. 72.1 III.(b)(2)].
4. No action eligible for arbitration will be referred to a magistrate judge until the arbitration has been concluded and trial *de novo* demanded [Local R. Civ. P. 53.2.7.].
5. The Court may, for good cause shown, on its own motion, or under extraordinary circumstances shown by any party, vacate a reference of a civil matter or proceeding to a magistrate judge [Fed. R. Civ. P. 73(b)(3)].
6. When a case is referred to a magistrate judge to conduct a civil action or proceeding, including the entry of final judgment, the final judgment may be taken to the court of appeals in the same manner as an appeal from any other judgment of a district court [Fed. R. Civ. P. 73(c)].

**PETRESE B. TUCKER
CHIEF JUDGE**

**KATE BARKMAN
CLERK OF COURT**

***This Notice is being given pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), Fed. R. Civ. P. 73 and Local R. Civ. P. 72.1, 53.2.**