

JUL 29 2026

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
MISC. NO.: 3:25MC163  
IN RE: ALLOCATION OF PRISONER PRO SE CASES  
ORDER

U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
W. DISTRICT OF N.C.

This case assignment order applies to all cases filed by prisoners proceeding pro se in prosecuting civil actions alleging violations of 42 USC 1983 and/or Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents, 403 U.S. 388 (1971) (hereinafter together referred to as "1983 Cases"). With regard to these 1983 Cases, this Order supersedes Order 3:07-MC-061 Docs. 5 and 14, dated August 17, 2010, and November 19, 2021, respectively, and 1:15-MC-008 Doc. 4, dated December 12, 2019, and 5:13-MC-03 Doc. 4 dated December 12, 2019, and 3:07-MC-61 dated March 1, 2023.

The 1983 Cases shall be divided and allocated as follows:

2/8 to Chief Judge Reidinger  
2/8 to Judge Whitney  
1/8 each to Judges Bell, Cogburn, Orso and Rodriguez

This allocation shall be without regard to the Division in which the case has been filed.

Of the cases assigned to Chief Judge Reidinger, they shall be referred to the Magistrate Judges for Memorandum and Recommendation as to any dispositive motions (including Summary Judgment), and for order regarding any non-dispositive motions, as follows:

¼ each to Magistrate Judges Keesler, Metcalf and Odulio.

No other 1983 Cases would be referred to the Magistrate Judges. Chief Judge Reidinger retains ¼ of these cases assigned to him without referral to any Magistrate Judge.

For these cases that survive Summary Judgment, a determination will be made at that time as to the Division in which the case will be tried, based on where the plaintiff prisoner is housed at that time. This determination shall be without regard to the Division wherein the case was filed. Such determination as to the location of the trial may necessitate the reassignment of the case to a different District Judge from the one who had handled the matter up to that time.

For any 1983 Case for which it is ordered that a Judicial Settlement Conference shall be conducted before a Magistrate Judge, such Judicial Settlement Conference shall be conducted by a Magistrate Judge other than one who issued any M&R or Order in that case.

All 1983 Cases shall be assigned to the Pro Se Law Clerks, and the Chief Judge shall supervise all pro se law clerks.

This Order shall be effective for all prisoner pro se 1983 Cases filed on or after the date it is signed.

The Clerk is directed to serve copies of this Order to all district court judges, all magistrate judges, the Chief United States Probation Officer, the United States Attorney, the Federal Public Defender, the United States Marshal, all deputy clerks and all court reporters.

Entered this the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2026.



Martin Reidinger  
Chief United States District Judge



Max O. Cogburn, Jr.  
United States District Judge



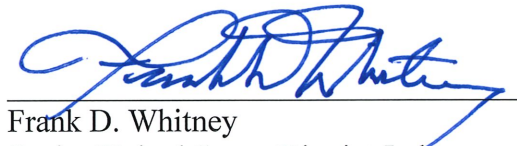
Kenneth D. Bell  
United States District Judge



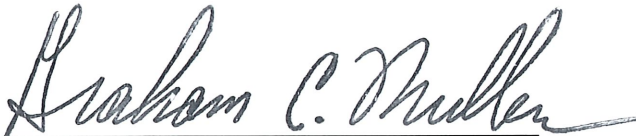
Matthew E. Orso  
United States District Judge



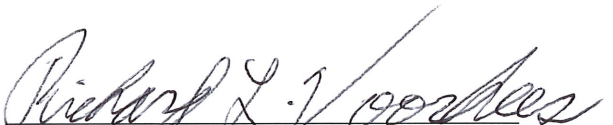
Susan C. Rodriguez  
United States District Judge



Frank D. Whitney  
Senior United States District Judge



Graham C. Mullen  
Senior United States District Judge



Richard L. Voorhees  
Senior United States District Judge