

**Redline of Changes to Central District Local Rules  
Proposed to Become Effective June 1, 2026**

**CHAPTER I  
LOCAL CIVIL RULES**

***L.R. 73-2 Direct Assignment of Cases to Magistrate Judges.***

***L.R. 73-2.1 Notice.*** When a case is assigned initially to a Magistrate Judge, the Clerk shall provide a Notice of Assignment to a U.S. Magistrate Judge (“Notice”) and a Declination of Consent Form (“Form”) to the initiating party. The initiating party must serve the Notice and Form on each newly served party or party added to the case (e.g., intervention) at the time of service of the summons and complaint or other initiating document (e.g., Notice of Removal). The Notice will advise each party that: (1) the case has been assigned to a Magistrate Judge for all purposes, including trial and entry of judgment; and (2) any party may decline to consent to have ~~the a~~ Magistrate Judge preside over the case by signing and returning the Form within fourteen (14) calendar days for cases initiated in the Central District and seven (7) calendar days for cases removed or transferred to the Central District. Incarcerated plaintiffs who are proceeding pro se may decline to consent to having ~~the a~~ Magistrate Judge preside over the case by signing and returning the Form within twenty-one (21) calendar days from the date of service of the Notice. The period to decline consent shall begin upon service of the Notice and Declination of Consent Form, either by issuance from the Clerk’s Office or when served with the Notice and Form by the initiating party.

***L.R. 73-2.2 Declination of Consent Form.*** If a party submits a timely Declination of Consent Form, the case will be randomly assigned to a District Judge to preside over the case for all purposes and randomly assigned to a new Magistrate Judge to preside over discovery. However, if a party fails to submit a Declination of Consent Form within the specified time, it will be deemed as the party’s consent to proceed for all purposes before ~~the assigned a~~ Magistrate Judge.

***L.R. 83-2.1.4 Attorneys for the United States or Its Departments or Agencies, or for the Office of the Federal Public Defender.***

***L.R. 83-2.1.4.1 Attorney for the United States or its Departments or Agencies, or for the Office of the Federal Public Defender.*** (a) Any person who is eligible for admission to the Bar of this Court under L.R. 83-2.1.2 and who is employed by the United States or any of its departments or agencies or by the Office of the Federal Public Defender may practice in this Court in all actions or proceedings within the scope of his or her employment by the United States or by the Office of the Federal Public Defender without being admitted to the Bar of this Court and without paying any associated admission fee. To register for permission to practice under this L.R. 83-2.1.4.1(a), the federal government attorney or attorney employed by the Office of the Federal Public Defender must comply with the other requirements of L.R. 83-2.1.2, including completion of an Application for Admission to the Bar of the Central District of California (Form G-60),

which must be submitted to the Court electronically through the Court's website.

(b) Any person who is not eligible for admission under L.R. 83-2.1.2 or 83-2.1.3, who is employed within this state and is a member in good standing of, and eligible to practice before, the bar of any United States Court, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, or the highest court of any State, Territory or Insular Possession of the United States, and is of good moral character, may be granted leave of court to practice in this Court in any matter for which such person is employed or retained by the United States or its departments or agencies, or by the Office of the Federal Public Defender. The application for such permission must include a certification filed with the Clerk showing that the applicant has applied to take the next succeeding Bar Examination for admission to the State Bar of California for which that applicant is eligible. No later than one year after submitting the foregoing application, the applicant must submit to this Court proof of admission to the State Bar of California. Failure to do so will result in revocation of permission to practice in this Court.