

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**GENERAL ORDER - 10-01**

February 2, 2010

Amends General Order 09-3 adopted March 3, 2009  
Pilot Program for Random Assignment of Civil Cases to Magistrate Judges

In order to increase the utilization of the Magistrate Judges and increase the availability of civil trials the Court, on December 4, 2007 by General Order 07-4, approved a pilot program to randomly assign, at the time of filing, a limited number of civil cases directly to the Magistrate Judges sitting in Boston. This new process was modeled after a successful program implemented in Springfield. After further review of the program, the Court adopted amended General Order 09-3 and continued the program for two years from January 1, 2008, absent further Order of the Court.

Upon further consideration by the Court, it is determined that the pilot program has been successful and should become permanent. Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that, effective January 1, 2010, *nunc pro tunc*, the automated case assignment system for civil cases is authorized as a permanent program and will continue until further Order of the Court.

Mark L. Wolf

Mark L. Wolf  
Chief Judge

Rya W. Zobel

Rya W. Zobel  
United States District Judge

Douglas P. Woodlock

Douglas P. Woodlock  
United States District Judge

Richard G. Stearns

Richard G. Stearns  
United States District Judge

Nancy Gertner

Nancy Gertner  
United States District Judge

George A. O'Toole

George A. O'Toole  
United States District Judge

Edward F. Harrington

Edward F. Harrington  
Senior United States District Judge

Joseph L. Tauro

Joseph L. Tauro  
United States District Judge

William G. Young

William G. Young  
United States District Judge

Nathaniel M. Gorton

Nathaniel M. Gorton  
United States District Judge

Patti B. Saris

Patti B. Saris  
United States District Judge

Michael A Ponsor

Michael A Ponsor  
United States District Judge

F. Dennis Saylor IV

F. Dennis Saylor IV  
United States District Judge