

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

-----X

IN THE MATTER OF THE DESIGNATION
OF A MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR
SERVICE IN ANOTHER DISTRICT

STANDING ORDER

-----X

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 (a), (b), or (c) of this section 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 the unavailability of all of the magistrate judges in the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, the assistance of a visiting magistrate judge is needed to perform the duties specified in 28 U.S.C. § 636(a)-(c). For this reason, the court certifies the need for assistance from Magistrate Judge Maria G. Valdez of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED, with the concurrence of the Honorable Virginia M. Kendall, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, that United States Magistrate Judge Maria G. Valdez is hereby designated to perform any and all judicial duties designated under 28 U.S.C. § 636, subsections (a), (b), and (c), on an as needed basis, in the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico for the period of February 3, 2026 through August 2, 2026, and for such additional time thereafter as may be required to complete unfinished business.

Dated this 13th day of January 2026.



**The Honorable Raúl M. Arias-Marxuach
Chief U.S. District Judge**