UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS **EL PASO DIVISION**

§ § **FILED**

MAY 0 1 2012

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

HONORABLE KATHLEEN CARDONE

ALL CIVIL CASES

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STANDING ORDER

- 1. This Order governs all civil cases assigned to this Court.
- 2. The following matters are hereby referred to the United States Magistrate Judges for the El Paso Division:
 - All discovery issues: a.
 - b. All non-prisoner requests to proceed in forma pauperis; and
 - All suits brought to review the final decision of the Commissioner of Social c. Security Administration. Unless the parties consent to a final decision by the Magistrate Judge to whom the case is referred, such determination will be in the form of a report and recommendation.
- 3. Cases referred to a United States Magistrate Judge pursuant to this Order shall be randomly assigned.
- 4. All parties appearing in a civil proceeding before this Court, with the exception of proceedings involving appeals from the decisions of administrative agencies, habeas corpus proceedings pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2241, 2254 and 2255 and civil complaints by incarcerated prisoners, are required to participate in formal mediation after the filing of a responsive pleading but prior to the scheduled settlement conference date. The failure of a named defendant to file a responsive pleading within the time set forth in Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in no way obviates this requirement, in which case the parties that have appeared are obligated to notify this Court of such failure to appear and proceed in mediation.

SO ORDERED.

SIGNED on this 1^{st} day of May, 2012.

KATALEEN CARDONE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE