

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

**IN RE: SELECTION AND EMPANELING           :       STANDING ORDER NO: 11-4**  
**OF GRAND JURIES FOR THE            :**  
**WILLIAMSPORT DIVISION             :**  
**REFERRED TO MAGISTRATE           :**  
**JUDGE ARBUCKLE                     :**

**STANDING ORDER**

**THE BACKGROUND OF THIS ORDER IS AS FOLLOWS:**

The Federal Magistrates Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 631-639, authorizes United States District Court judges to “designate a magistrate judge to hear and determine any pretrial matter pending before the court.” 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A). The selection and empaneling of a grand jury is a “pretrial matter” that may properly be delegated to a magistrate judge. See United States v. Diaz, 922 F.2d 998, 1004-05 (2d Cir. 1990) (“In light of the grand jury’s role and the fairly routine nature of the task of selection, empaneling, and instructing the grand jury, we view the legislative history of § 636(b)(1)(A) as indicating that this is a task whose delegation to magistrates Congress intended to authorize.”).

**ACCORDINGLY**, it is **HEREBY ORDERED THAT** all matters relating to the selection and empaneling of grand juries for the Williamsport Division of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania shall be referred to Magistrate Judge William I. Arbuckle III.

S/ Yvette Kane  
Yvette Kane, Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
Middle District of Pennsylvania

Dated: October 5, 2011