

General Order 9  
02/21/1978

To comply with the Plan for Prompt Disposition of Criminal Cases, as well as the Speedy Trial Act of 1974, all magistrates are authorized to accept not guilty pleas, assign guilty pleas, and assign trial dates. Should a defendant choose to plead guilty, he or she shall file a written petition to enter such a plea. The magistrate shall review the petition to determine whether it was entered freely, voluntarily, and with full understanding of its contents. The magistrate may also obtain written authorization from the defendant allowing presentation of a presentence investigation report to the district judge prior to acceptance of a guilty plea. (A district judge may waive this rule.)

