

June 9, 2021

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

By Deputy Clerk 

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF
APPOINTMENT OF
MAGISTRATE JUDGE
MERIT SELECTION PANEL

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SPECIAL ORDER NO. H-2021-13

ORDER

Under 28 U.S.C. § 631 and Regulations issued by the Judicial Conference on the appointment of Magistrate Judges, the court appoints a Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel to consider applicants and recommend nominees to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Magistrate Judge Frances H. Stacy, which will be effective on February 19, 2022.

The Merit Selection Panel will be guided by the standards described in the pamphlet, "The Selection, Appointment, and Reappointment of United States Magistrate Judges," published in October 2016 by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. The Clerk will make a copy available to each Panel member.

The Merit Selection Panel consists of the following persons:

Amira E. Love, Chair

Charles J. Pignuolo

Richard F. Callaway, Jr.

Christopher D. Porter

Alicia F. Castro

Roman F. Reed (Non-Attorney)

Eusebio D. Diaz (Non-Attorney)

Alex B. Roberts

Jeremy Dunbar

Sean Roberts

Zandra E. Foley

J. Douglas Sutter

Stephen E. Hart

Natasha N. Taylor

Weston O'Black

A. Martin Wickliff, Jr.

Unsolicited contact with the aforementioned panel members regarding applicants is discouraged by the court.

The Clerk of Court has made a public announcement inviting qualified applicants to apply. Applications were due June 8, 2021. As required under the Regulations, the Panel will prepare and submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the court no later than September 7, 2021. Except for its report to the court, all interviews, communications, and deliberations about the applicants must remain confidential within the Panel.

All Panel members are advised that the Regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States Establishing Standards and Procedures for the Appointment and Reappointment of United States Magistrate Judges restrict former merit selection panel members from being considered for a magistrate judge position one year from the application deadline for the position and the earlier of either (1) the date when the panel on which the former member served submitted its report to the court, or (2) the date when the former member resigned from the panel, unless there is a waiver to the restriction by the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System granted on an individual case basis.

Signed June 9, 2021.



LEE H. ROSENTHAL
CHIEF JUDGE