

## Court Information Release



United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division  
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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**Contact:** Julie Hodek, Public Information Officer  
United States District Court for  
the Northern District of Illinois  
219 S. Dearborn St., #2548  
Chicago, IL 60604  
312-435-5693

### **U.S. District Court selects Keri Holleb Hotaling to serve as U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois**

CHICAGO, Ill.- Chief Judge Rebecca Pallmeyer announced today that the U.S. District Court has selected Keri Holleb Hotaling to be the next United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. Ms. Hotaling has been designated to fill the magistrate judge vacancy created when Magistrate Judge Susan E. Cox retires on August 9, 2023.

“We are so pleased that Ms. Hotaling will be joining the Court. Ms. Hotaling is a seasoned litigator with an expertise in high stakes litigation and a career-long commitment to pro bono and community service.”

The Chief Judge added, “Ms. Hotaling will be an outstanding addition to our Court’s magistrate judge bench, among the hardest working and most dedicated in the nation. The Court also notes its gratitude to the many talented lawyers who applied for this position and to the Merit Selection Panel for their voluntary service in interviewing applicants and selecting finalists.”

Ms. Hotaling is currently an Assistant Deputy Attorney General in the Civil Litigation Division within the Illinois Attorney General’s Office. She assumed this position in February 2023. Prior to joining the Attorney General’s Office, she was a member of Jenner & Block’s Litigation Department for approximately 21 years. She joined Jenner as an associate in 2000 and was promoted to partner in 2005. She served as a law clerk to Judge Philip Simon on the District Court for the Northern District of Indiana from 2003 to 2005, then returned to Jenner as a partner. She earned her law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law in 2000 and her undergraduate degree from Allegheny College in 1995.

The selection of a magistrate judge is governed by statute and by regulations adopted by the Judicial Conference of the United States. The Court had the assistance of a Merit Selection Panel, which screened and interviewed candidates and made a recommendation to the district judges of five applicants it found best qualified. The Panel, comprised of both attorneys and non-attorneys, was chaired by Hon. Arlander Keys, Chair (retired). Members of the Panel

included Mr. Theodore T. Chung, Mr. Jeremy C. Daniel, Mr. Joseph M. Gagliardo, Mr. Richard J. Gonzalez, Ms. Verneé Green, Ms. Eileen M. Letts, Ms. Spiridoula (Litza) Mavrothalasitis, Ms. Amanda Gabriela Penabad, Mr. Stephen H. Pugh, Ms. Arabel Alva Rosales, Mr. Nigel Telman, and Hon. Debra B. Walker.

The magistrate judge position requires a minimum of five years as a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a state and at least five years of active practice of law. The term of office for a magistrate judge is eight years, with the opportunity of renewal of additional terms.

Magistrate judges perform a variety of duties for the court, including conducting preliminary proceedings in federal criminal cases and the trial and disposition of federal misdemeanor cases upon consent of the litigants. They conduct various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings upon referral from a district judge of the court and the trial and disposition of federal civil cases upon consent of the litigants.

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