Court Information Release



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

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Margaret J. Schneider Sworn in as U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, Western Division

In a private ceremony, Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer swore in Margaret J. Schneider as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

"The court is delighted to welcome Judge Schneider as our newest colleague. She has an excellent reputation and extensive criminal and civil litigation experience and will be an excellent addition to our court's esteemed Western Division bench," said Chief Judge Pallmeyer.

Judge Schneider earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois and her law degree from the University of Michigan Law School. After graduating law school, Ms. Schneider served as law clerk to the Honorable Paul V. Niemeyer, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. In 2002, she joined the Chicago office of Mayer Brown, where, as a litigation associate, she litigated criminal and civil cases. In 2006, she joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. There she served as Deputy Chief of the Narcotics Section from 2012 until 2014, and as Deputy Chief of the Violent Crimes Section from 2014 until 2015. In 2015, she transferred to Western Division Branch in Rockford. In 2018, she was promoted to the position of Branch Chief, where she oversaw the work of seven Assistant U.S. Attorneys.

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. Magistrate judges serve a renewable eight-year term.

Magistrate Judge Schneider will preside in Rockford, in the Western Division. Judge Schneider's Courtroom is Courtroom 5300, and her chambers is in 6300 Roszkowski U.S. Courthouse. A public swearing-in ceremony will be held at a future date.

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Above: U.S. Magistrate Judge Schneider and Chief Judge Pallmeyer