

## COURT INFORMATION RELEASE



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION  
219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET  
CHICAGO, IL 60604

**Release Date:**  
February 16, 2017

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### **2017 MAGISTRATE JUDGE MERIT REVIEW PANEL APPOINTED**

CHICAGO - Chief Judge Rubén Castillo announced that he appointed a Magistrate Judge Merit Review Panel to consider the reappointment of United States Magistrate Judge Michael T. Mason, whose term will expire on September 28, 2017.

Under the law, the Panel must submit its report and recommendation by May 19, 2017. Patricia Brown Holmes of Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila LLP will serve as the Chairperson of the well-qualified and diverse Panel. The other members of the Panel are:

Ricardo Estrada,\* President and CEO of Metropolitan Family Services;  
Joseph M. Gagliardo of Laner Muchin, Ltd.;  
Marisel A. Hernandez of Jacobs Burns Orlove & Hernandez;  
Ianna Kachoris,\* Sr. Program Officer at the MacArthur Foundation;  
Spiridoula (Litza) Mavrothalasitis of the City of Chicago – Department of Law;  
Samuel S. Park of Winston & Strawn;  
Stephen H. Pugh of Pugh Jones Johnson;  
Sergio F. Rodriguez of the Federal Defender Program;  
Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott of Foley & Lardner LLP;  
Natalie J. Spears of Dentons US LLP; and  
Nigel F. Telman of Proskauer.

Judge Castillo stated, “This all-star panel of attorneys and citizens deserves the public’s thanks for agreeing to work, without pay, on behalf of the citizens of the Northern District of Illinois.” The Court looks forward to receiving the Panel’s report and hopes to make its decision in June 2017.

\*By regulation, the Panel must include at least two non-lawyers.