

Court Information Release



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

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MAGISTRATE JUDGE SUSAN E. COX REAPPOINTED TO EIGHT YEAR TERM

CHICAGO- Chief Judge Rubén Castillo announced today that United States Magistrate Judge Susan E. Cox was reappointed by unanimous vote of the United States District Judges of the Northern District of Illinois to a new term of service as a United States Magistrate Judge. Magistrate Judge Cox was originally appointed to serve as a magistrate judge for the Eastern Division of the Northern District of Illinois in 2007. This will be Magistrate Judge Cox's second eight-year term with the United States District Court.

In March 2015, Chief Judge Castillo empaneled a Magistrate Judge Merit Advisory Panel for the purpose of reviewing the service of Magistrate Judge Cox and to make a report to the district judges of the court recommending whether Judge Cox should be reappointed. The Panel was chaired by Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes, and the members were Mr. Joseph M. Gagliardo, Ms. Carolyn Grisko, Ms. Nathalina Hudson, Ms Spiridoula (Litza) Mavrothalasitis, Mr. Jonathan McCabe, Mr. John F. Murphy, Mr. Jose Padilla, Mr. Samuel S. Park, Mr. Stephen H. Pugh, Mr. M. David Weisman, and Ms. Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott. By statute, the panel must include at least two non-lawyers from the community. After interviewing the district judges; reviewing comments submitted by the public, survey responses returned by members of the bar, and statistical data regarding Magistrate Judge Cox's case load; the panel unanimously recommended reappointment to another term.

Chief Judge Castillo stated, "I am proud of Magistrate Judge Cox's work for this Court and for the litigants who appear before her on a daily basis." Castillo continued, "Judge Cox is dedicated to the impartial and fair administration of justice. The magistrate judges in the Northern District of Illinois are a key reason why we are able to provide litigants with time in front of a judge and move a case through our Court at a fair pace." Castillo further stated, "Additionally, Magistrate Judge Cox is a key member of our District's Reentry Court, which is an additional voluntary service on her part for our district."

United States 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.