

Court Information Release



United States District Court

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

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Beth W. Jantz Sworn in as U.S. Magistrate Judge

Chicago, Ill. – In a private ceremony today Chief Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer swore in Beth W. Jantz as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

“We are so delighted to welcome Judge Jantz to our magistrate judge bench. She is a proven litigator with extensive civil and criminal experience. She will be a wonderful asset to our court’s dedicated and talented magistrate bench,” said Chief Judge Pallmeyer.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Jantz served a Staff Attorney with the Federal Defender Program in Chicago since 2008. There she represented persons criminally charged in the Northern District of Illinois who need but cannot afford to hire counsel. Judge Jantz worked extensively on addressing e-discovery and electronic case management for the Federal Defender Program, and for Federal Defenders on a national level. Prior to joining the Federal Defender Program Judge Jantz was an associate at Sidley Austin where she practiced for three and a half years.

Judge Jantz earned her undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College and her law degree from the Northwestern University School of Law. After graduating law school, Judge Jantz also worked as a Staff Attorney in the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. As an attorney, Judge Jantz received several awards including the prestigious 2018 Award for Excellence in Public Interest Service, given by the Federal Bar Association and the U.S. District Court.

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 Judge Jantz will preside in Chicago, in the Eastern Division, and will immediately receive randomly selected consent cases and civil referrals from her magistrate judge colleagues. Judge Jantz's Courtroom is Courtroom 1812, and her Chambers is in 1822, Dirksen U.S. Courthouse. A public swearing-in ceremony will be held at a future date. Magistrate judges serve a renewable eight-year term.

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