

Court Information Release



United States District Court

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

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U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois Now Accepting Applications for the Position of U.S. Magistrate Judge, Chicago Duty Station

CHICAGO, Ill.- Chief Judge Rubén Castillo announced today that the U.S. District Court will now be accepting applications for the newly created position of an additional U.S. Magistrate Judge, Chicago duty station.

“We are pleased that our hard-working judges will get some deserved additional help in Chicago,” said Chief Judge Castillo.

On September 13, 2018, the Judicial Conference approved the addition of a new additional Magistrate Judge position for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division.

Chief Judge Castillo appointed a Merit Selection Panel composed of attorneys and other members of the community who will review all applications and recommend to the judges of the Court, in confidence, a list of the persons whom it considers best qualified.

“We have confidence in this accomplished and diverse panel to vet and qualify Magistrate Judge candidates. On behalf of the Court, thank you to the members of the Selection Panel for agreeing to take on, on a volunteer basis, this critical work for the people of the Northern District of Illinois,” said Chief Judge Castillo.

The Panel, which is statutorily required to include at least two non-lawyers and cannot include any sitting judge, will be chaired by Patricia Brown Holmes of Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila LLP.

This U.S. Magistrate Judge position is a full-time position with an eight-year term of office and a duty station at the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse, 219 South Dearborn Street in Chicago, Illinois. The duties of the position of a United States Magistrate Judge include conducting most preliminary

proceedings in federal criminal cases, the trial and disposition of federal misdemeanor cases as well as civil cases upon consent of the litigants, conducting various civil pretrial matters, such as settlement conferences and other proceedings on reference from the district judges of the Court.

To qualify for appointment as a U.S. Magistrate Judge, an applicant must be a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands of the United States, and have been engaged in the active practice of law for a period of at least five years. The applicant must be less than seventy years of age and may not be related to a judge of the district court. In a change from previous Magistrate Judge vacancy postings, the application process is now on-line. Additional information and the application, can be found on the [Court's website](#). The application process will close at 4:30 p.m. on October 12, 2018.

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