

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPOINTMENT OF UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

The Judicial Conference of the United States has authorized the appointment of a full-time United States Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee at Knoxville. The essential function of courts is to dispense justice. An important component of this function is the creation and maintenance of diversity in the court system. A community's belief that a court dispenses justice is heightened when the court reflects the community's racial, ethnic, and gender diversity.

The duties of the position are demanding and wide-ranging and will include presiding over the following: (1) most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; (2) trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; (3) various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings on delegation from a district judge; and (4) trial and disposition of civil cases upon consent of the litigants. The basic authority of a United States Magistrate Judge is specified in 28 U.S.C. Section 636.

To be qualified for appointment an applicant must:

- (1) Be, and have been for at least five years, a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, 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 (with some substitutes authorized);
- (2) Be competent to perform all the duties of the office; be of good moral character; be emotionally stable and mature; be committed to equal justice under the law; be in good health; be patient and courteous; and be capable of deliberation and decisiveness;
- (3) Be less than seventy years old; and
- (4) Not be related to a judge of the district court.

A Merit Selection Panel composed of attorneys and other members of the community will review all applicants and recommend to the district judges in confidence the five persons it considers best qualified. The district judges will make the appointment following an FBI full-field investigation and an IRS tax check of the applicant selected by the court for appointment. The individual selected must comply with the financial disclosure requirements pursuant to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, Pub. L. No. 95-521, 90 Stat. 1824 (1978)(codified at 5 U.S.C. app. 4 §§ 101-111) as implemented by the Judicial Conference of the United States. An affirmative effort will be made to give due consideration to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, age (40 and over), gender, religion, national origin, or disability. The current annual salary of the position is \$201,112. The term of office is eight years.

Application forms may be obtained from the Clerk's Office and are available on the Court's website at www.tned.uscourts.gov. More information on the magistrate judge position may be

obtained from the Chairperson of the Merit Selection Panel, Wayne Ritchie, war@rddjlaw.com, Ritchie, Dillard, Davies, & Johnson, 606 W. Main Street, Suite 300, Knoxville, TN 37902. **Applicants must personally email the applications to Human_Resources@tned.uscourts.gov in PDF format.** For IT security purposes, other file types will not be accepted. The email subject line should list “TNED Magistrate Judge Application - ” followed by the applicant’s name. Completed applications **must be received by 5:00 p.m. EST on March 15, 2021.**

All applications will be kept confidential, unless the applicant consents to disclosure, and all applications will be examined only by members of the Merit Selection Panel and the district judges. The panel’s deliberations will remain confidential. Only applicants selected for interviews will be notified.