PUBLIC NOTICE FOR REAPPOINTMENT OF INCUMBENT MAGISTRATE JUDGE

United States Magistrate Judge Debra C. Poplin's current term of office at Knoxville is due to expire on February 12, 2026. The United States District Court is required by law to establish a panel of citizens to consider the magistrate judge's reappointment to a new eight-year term.

The magistrate judge's duties in this court 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.

Comments from members of the bar and the public are invited as to whether the incumbent magistrate judge should be recommended by the panel for reappointment by the Court. Comments should be emailed to the Chairperson of the Merit Selection Panel, James F. Parker, at jparker@hdclaw.com. The email subject line should list "Comments for U.S. Magistrate Judge Poplin Reappointment."

Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. EST on Friday, May 23, 2025.