

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Judicial Conference of the United States has authorized the appointment of a full-time United States Magistrate Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania at Pittsburgh. 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, but are not limited to: (1) trial and disposition of civil cases upon consent of the litigants; (2) trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; (3) conduct of various pretrial matters including motions to dismiss, motions for summary judgment and discovery motions, and evidentiary proceedings on reference from the judges of the District Court; (4) conduct of most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases. The basic authority of a United States Magistrate Judge is specified in 28 U.S.C. § 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.

The court may consider as substitute experience for the active practice of law any combination of the following:

- Experience as a judge of a state court of record or other state judicial officer.
- Experience as a United States Magistrate Judge, Bankruptcy Judge, or other federal judicial officer.
- Experience as an attorney for federal or state agencies.
- Experience as a law clerk to any judge or judicial officer (limited to two years).
- Other legal experience suitable as a substitute in the opinion of the court.

A Merit Selection Panel composed of attorneys and other members of the community will review all applicants and recommend to the Judges of the District Court in confidence the five persons it considers best qualified. The Court 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. §§ 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 \$ 191,360. The term of the appointment is 8 years.

Application forms and more information on the magistrate judge position and how to apply are available on the Court's website at <http://www.pawd.uscourts.gov/employment> or may be obtained from the Clerk's Office. Applications must be personally completed by potential nominees and **must be received by 4:00 p.m. on October 31, 2018.**

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 judges of the district court. The panel's deliberations will remain confidential.

Joshua C. Lewis, Clerk of Court
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania
Joseph F. Weis, Jr. U.S. Courthouse
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