

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

IN RE: SELECTION AND	)	
APPOINTMENT OF UNITED STATES	)	
MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR THE	)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2026-19
UNITED STATES DISTRICT	)	
COURT FOR THE WESTERN	)	Misc. Case No. 2:24-mc-10001
DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA AT	)	
PITTSBURGH	)	

ORDER APPOINTING MERIT SELECTION PANEL

AND NOW, this 28th day of September 2026, in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Magistrates Act, 28 U.S.C. § 631(b)(5); the regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States Establishing Standards and Procedures for the Appointment of United States Magistrate Judges; and by action of the Judges of this Court, effective as of this date, the following persons are appointed to serve as a Merit Selection Panel (the “Panel”) to review materials submitted to the court by individuals interested in serving as a United States Magistrate Judge in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania:

Rebecca Ross Haywood, Esq. (Chair)

Michael Comber, Esq.

Rohit Dharwadkar, Esq.

Daniel McLane, Esq.

David Oberdick, Esq.

Gerri Paulisick, Esq.

Terrina LaVallee, Esq.

Michael Braxton (Non-Lawyer)

Erin Starzynski (Non-Lawyer)

Each member of the Panel received written notice of the restriction in the *Guide to Judiciary Policy*, Vol. 3, Ch. 4, § 420.30.20(d).

The Panel shall conduct interviews of qualified candidates and recommend to the Court those applicants it deems most qualified to serve as a United States Magistrate Judge. On or before December 21, 2026, unless otherwise ordered, the Panel shall submit a written report to the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania identifying the five (5) applicants deemed most qualified and setting forth all other required information.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cathy Bissoon".

Cathy Bissoon
Chief United States District Judge