

United States District Court
Western District of Washington
Public Notice for Appointment of a New Magistrate Judge

September 18, 2014

The Judicial Conference of the United States has authorized the appointment of a full-time United States magistrate judge for the Western District of Washington. The magistrate judge duty station will be Tacoma, Washington. The position is available starting April 1, 2015, subject to the Judiciary receiving an appropriation for full year funding for Fiscal Year 2015. Applications will be accepted until November 1, 2014.

The duties of the position are demanding and wide-ranging:

- (1) Conduct of most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; pleas, first appearances and warrants;
- (2) Trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases;
- (3) Conduct of various proceedings on delegation from a district judge, including prisoner civil rights cases, habeas petitions, and a high volume of Social Security appeals; 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. § 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 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. 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, disability, or sexual orientation. The current annual salary of the position is \$183,172. The term of office is eight years with the possibility of renewal.

Application forms and more information on the magistrate judge position in this court may be obtained from the district court executive/clerk of the court via the court's Internet website at www.wawd.uscourts.gov. Applications must be submitted only by applicants personally and must be received by **November 1, 2014**.

All applications will be kept confidential, except for the committee's contact with references. All applications will be examined only by members of the merit selection panel and the judges of the district court. All the information provided is subject to verification. The panel's deliberations will remain confidential.

Applicants should send their application materials, including a cover letter and the job application form, to:

William M. McCool
District Court Executive/Clerk of Court
United States District Court
Western District of Washington
700 Stewart Street, Room 2310
Seattle, WA 98101
Attention – Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel

Or via e-mail to:
magistratejudgeapplication2014@wawd.uscourts.gov

**APPLICATION FORM
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

Please answer all questions. If a question is not applicable, indicate this by marking "N/A."
Use additional pages to answer questions if needed and attach.

GENERAL

1. Full name: _____

2. All other names by which you have been known: _____

3. Work address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail Address _____

4. Residential address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail Address _____

5. Place of birth: _____

Date of birth: _____

6. Length of residence in state: _____

7. If you are a naturalized citizen, state the date and place of naturalization.

8. Military service:

Branch _____ Dates _____

Rank or Rate at Discharge _____ Type of Discharge _____

If still a reserve or National Guard member, give service, branch, unit, and present rank.

9. Are you related by blood or marriage to any judges of this court? Yes No

If yes, give name(s) and relationship. _____

HEALTH

- 10. What is the present state of your health?

- 11. Do you have any mental or physical impairment that would affect your ability to perform the duties of a magistrate judge with or without reasonable accommodation?

EDUCATION

- 12. Colleges and universities attended, dates, and degrees:

- 13. Continuing legal education courses completed within the last 10 years:

HONORS

- 14. Were you a member of law review? Yes No
 If yes, describe role: _____
- 15. If you have published any legal books or articles, list them, giving citations and dates.

- 16. List any honors, prizes, or awards you have received.

PROFESSIONAL ADMISSIONS

- 17. List all courts (including state bar admissions) and administrative bodies having special admission requirements in which you are presently admitted to practice, giving the dates of admission in each case:

Court or Administrative Body	Date of Admission
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21. During the past five years, what percentage _____ %
of your practice has been trial practice?
22. How frequently have you appeared in court? _____ times per month.
23. How frequently have you appeared at _____ times per month.
administrative hearings?
24. What percentage of your practice involving litigation has been:
- | | |
|----------|---------|
| Civil | _____ % |
| Criminal | _____ % |
| Other: | _____ % |
| | _____ % |
| | _____ % |
| | _____ % |
25. State the number of cases you have tried to conclusion in courts of record during the past five years, indicating whether you were sole, associate, or chief counsel. Give citations of any reported cases.
26. Summarize your courtroom experience for the past five years.
27. State the names and addresses of adversary counsel against whom you have litigated your primary cases over the past five years.

28. Do you have any experience with Social Security law? If so, please describe.

PUBLIC OFFICE

29. Have you ever held a public office or been a candidate for a public office? Yes No

If so, state the office involved and the dates of service, or dates of candidacy. Please include contact information for your campaign manager and treasurer.

PRIOR JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

30.

a) Have you ever held judicial office or been a candidate for judicial office? Yes No

If so, state the courts involved and the dates of service, or dates of candidacy. Please include contact information for your campaign manager and treasurer.

b) If you have held judicial office, state the names and addresses of counsel who have appeared before you who would be knowledgeable of your work, temperament, and abilities.

If you have previous judicial experience, please list your five most significant cases and explain why they are important to you.

If you have previous judicial experience, please list citations for any appealable reversals of your decisions within the past five years.

c) Prior quasi-judicial service:

Name of agency

Position held

Hearings on what types of issues

Number of cases adjudicated

Dates of service

BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT

31.

a) If you are now an officer, director, or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise, state the name of such enterprise, the nature of the business, the nature of your duties, and whether you intend to resign such position immediately upon your appointment to judicial office.

b) Since being admitted to the Bar, have you ever engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law? Yes No
If yes, give the details, including dates.

c) During the past five years have you received any fees or compensation of any kind, other than for legal services rendered, from any business enterprise, institution, organization, or association of any kind? Yes No
If yes, identify the source of such compensation, the nature of the business enterprise, institution, organization or association involved, and the dates such compensation was paid.

32.

a) Have you ever been arrested, charged, or convicted for violation of any federal law, state law, county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance? Yes No
If yes, give details. (Do not include traffic violations for which a fine of \$200 or less was imposed unless it also included a jail sentence.)

b) Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute?
If yes, give particulars. Yes No

33.

a) Have you ever been sued by a client?
If yes, give particulars. Yes No

b) Have you or your professional liability insurance carrier ever settled a claim against you for professional malpractice?
If yes, give particulars, including the amounts involved. Yes No

34. Have you ever been charged in any civil or criminal proceedings with conduct alleged to involve moral turpitude, dishonesty, or unethical conduct?
If yes, give particulars. Yes No

35. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by any court, administrative agency, bar association, or other professional group?
If yes, give particulars. Yes No

36. Have you filed appropriate tax returns as required by federal, state, local, and other government authorities?
If no, explain. Yes No

37. Have any liens or claims ever been instituted against you by the federal, state or local authorities?
If yes, explain. Yes No

PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

38. List all bar associations and legal professional societies of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any office you have held in such groups, and committees to which you belonged.

39. List all organizations and clubs, other than bar associations and professional societies identified in response to Question No. 37.a), of which you have been a member during the past ten years, including the titles and dates of any offices you have held in each such organization.

40. Please describe any pro bono activities or services you have performed. Include the number of hours spent in the past five years.

41. Please describe the social media sites you frequent.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

42. State any achievement or actions you have accomplished, demonstrating your commitment to equal justice under the law.

43. State any additional education or other experiences you believe would assist you in holding judicial office.

44. State any other pertinent information reflecting positively or adversely on you which you believe should be disclosed to the district court and the selection panel in connection with your possible selection as United States magistrate judge.

45. List six professional references, individuals who are familiar with your legal abilities.

Name	Telephone	E-mail Address
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46. List three personal references, individuals who are familiar with your personal character.

Name	Telephone	E-mail Address
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Please return the completed form by November 1, 2014 to:

William M. McCool
District Court Executive and Clerk of Court
U.S. District Court
700 Stewart Street, Rm. 2310
Seattle, WA 98101

Or via electronic mail:
magistratejudgeapplication2014@wawd.uscourts.gov

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

This form will be kept confidential and will be examined only by members of the merit selection panel and the judges of the district court. All the information you provide in this form is subject to verification. We may also contact the individuals you have listed as references.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature of Applicant

Date