

# PRESS RELEASE



## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

Contact:

Teresa L. (Terry) Deppner, Clerk of Court  
Tel. 304-347-3055

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel Named

A Merit Selection Panel has been established by unanimous vote of the district judges of the Southern District of West Virginia to consider the appointment of a new federal Magistrate Judge in Charleston. The panel's objective will be to determine collectively which individuals among the applicants meet the standards and appear qualified for appointment. The report of the panel, due to Chief Judge Joseph R. Goodwin by November 30, 2012, will recommend the five individuals most qualified and suited to the particular needs of the West Virginia Southern District court. 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 members of the panel include: Charles M. Love, III, Esquire of Charleston (Chairperson); Benjamin L. Bailey, Esquire of Charleston; Dina M. Mohler, Esquire of Charleston; J. Franklin Long, Esquire of Bluefield; Ann R. Starcher, Esquire of Charleston; Priscilla Haden of Charleston; and Elaine Chiles of Dunbar.

Interested applicants may obtain application forms on the magistrate judge position from Teresa L. Deppner, Clerk of the United States District Court, at Charleston, West Virginia, or access the court's Internet website at [www.wvsd.uscourts.gov](http://www.wvsd.uscourts.gov). Applications must be received by October 15, 2012. Applicants are advised not to contact Merit Selection Panel members.