

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR
APPOINTMENT OF NEW MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

The Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System of the Judicial Conference of the United States has authorized the appointment of a full-time United States magistrate judge for the Southern District of West Virginia at Huntington.

The duties of the position are demanding and wide-ranging: (1) conduct of most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; (2) trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; (3) conduct of various pretrial matters, including discovery, and evidentiary proceedings on delegation from a district judge; 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 committed to equal justice under the law; 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, or disability. The current annual salary of the position is \$160,080. The term of office is eight years from the date of appointment.

Application forms on the magistrate judge position in this court may be obtained from Teresa L. Deppner, Clerk of the U. S. District Court, 2400 Robert C. Byrd United States Courthouse, 300 Virginia Street, East, Charleston, WV 25301 (telephone 304/347-3000). The form is also available on the court's Internet website at www.wvsc.uscourts.gov. Applications must be submitted only by applicants personally and **must be received by February 19, 2010**. Each applicant shall submit the original application and seven copies in an envelope marked "confidential" to Teresa L. Deppner, Clerk of the U. S. District Court, 2400 Robert C. Byrd United States Courthouse, 300 Virginia Street, East, Charleston, WV 25301.

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.