

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE

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Administrative Order No. 02-24  
Robert H. Di Tollo  
CLERK, U.S. DIST. CT.  
OF TN. JACKSON

IN RE: APPOINTMENT OF A MERIT SELECTION  
PANEL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF AND  
REAPPOINTMENT OF UNITED STATES  
MAGISTRATE JUDGES

In accordance with the Federal Magistrates Act, as amended (28 U.S.C. § 631 *et seq*), this court is required to appoint residents of this district to a merit selection panel for the purpose of assisting in identifying and recommending persons best qualified to fill the position of United States Magistrate Judge.

The Honorable James Allen, United States Magistrate Judge, retires in March 2003. The term of The Honorable Diane Vescovo, United States Magistrate Judge, expires in June 2003. In consideration of these events, and in accordance with the related requirement for a merit selection panel, the District Judges of the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee appoint the following residents to serve as a Merit Selection Panel:

Odell Horton, Jr., Chairperson

- |                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Beth DuPree, Jackson, TN      | Elijah Noel, Memphis, TN           |
| Houston Gordon, Covington, TN | P.J. Smoot, Memphis, TN            |
| Ted Hansom, Memphis, TN       | Mark Stansbury, Memphis, TN        |
| Venita Martin, Memphis, TN    | David Wade (Secretary) Memphis, TN |

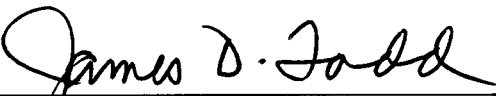
It is the responsibility of this Merit Selection Panel, in conformance with guidelines promulgated by the Magistrate Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States, to solicit through an appropriate means of public notice and advertisement the applications of qualified individuals interested in filling the vacancy created by Magistrate Judge Allen's retirement. After a reasonable period of recruitment, the Panel will evaluate and rank the applications, and will interview qualified candidates. Within 90 days of the effective date of this order, the Panel will recommend in a report to the Court the five individuals it has determined to be most qualified to fill this vacancy.

The Merit Selection Panel shall also serve as an advisory panel to assist the Court in its determination to reappoint Magistrate Judge Diane Vescovo to an additional term. It is the Panel's responsibility in this regard to publish notice of the impending reappointment, and to solicit comments from the bar and the public, and gather any other pertinent evidence.

Upon considering this information, the Panel will, within 120 days of the effective date of this order, report to the Court its recommendation as to whether Magistrate Judge Vescovo should be reappointed to an additional term of office.

DONE and ORDERED.

For the Court:

  
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JAMES D. TODD  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE