## PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPOINTMENT OF PART TIME MAGISTRATE JUDGE IN ST. GEORGE UTAH

The Judicial Conference of the United States has authorized the appointment of a part-time United States magistrate judge to serve primarily in the Southern Region of the Central Division of the District of Utah at St George, Utah. The magistrate judge must live within the Southern Region.

The essential function of courts is to dispense justice. An important component of this function is the creation and maintenance of diversity in the court system. A community's belief that a court dispenses justice is strengthened when the court reflects the community's racial, ethnic, and gender diversity.

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

- (1) conduct most preliminary proceedings in criminal and civil cases;
- (2) conduct trial or otherwise resolve misdemeanor cases;
- (3) preside over therapeutic courts, such as those dealing with addiction and mental health;
- (4) conduct various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings on referral from a district judge and prepare reports and recommendations;
- (5) conduct settlement conferences;
- (6) upon consent of the litigants, preside over civil cases;
- (7) travel, as needed, to locations other than St. George to conduct proceedings; and
- (8) participate in court management, especially in the St. George location.

The court intends to assign substantial civil duties under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(A) and (b)(1)(B) and 636(c) to the magistrate judge selected for this position. For this reason, the court looks favorably on a candidate's civil litigation experience that may instill confidence the bar to consent to magistrate judge jurisdiction in civil cases, and enable the candidate to effectively manage, schedule, and settle civil cases.

The current annual salary of the position is \$95,680. The term of office is four years, unless terminated earlier due to establishment of a full-time magistrate judge position in St. George. A part-time magistrate judge compensated at this salary level is expected to perform duties equivalent to a half-time workload or more of a full-time magistrate judge in the district. The compensation currently set is the highest compensation available for a part-time magistrate judge. The work of this position, with the additional civil duties and possible expansion of criminal caseload, will likely require substantially more than half of the workload of a full-time magistrate judge position.

Within the four-year term of the candidate selected for this position, the court expects to seek authorization from the Judicial Conference of the United States to replace the position with a new full-time magistrate judge position at St. George. If such authorization is received, the part-time position will likely be discontinued before the appointee's term has expired. To fill the new position, the court will be required to post a public notice seeking applications from all qualified applicants, and the position will be filled in accordance with the ordinary selection process for magistrate judge positions, as prescribed by Judicial Conference regulations. The candidate selected for this position may apply for the full-time magistrate judge position. The experience and performance in the part-time position will likely be a factor in selection of the full-time magistrate judge, if such a position is created.

**Ethical Standards:** The individual selected must comply with the financial disclosure requirements pursuant to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, Pub. L. No. 95-521, 90 Stat. 1824 (1978) (codified at <u>5 U.S.C. app. 4 §§ 101-111</u>) as implemented by the Judicial Conference of the United States. Part-time magistrate judges are governed by <u>unique application of the Code of Judicial Conduct</u> and the <u>Conflict-of-Interest Rules for Part-Time Magistrate Judges</u>. The code and rules affect the practice of law of the part-time magistrate judge.

**Basic Authority:** The basic authority of a United States magistrate judge is specified in <u>28</u> <u>U.S.C.</u> § 636.

## Qualification Requirements: 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.

Selection Process: The selection process is outlined in a booklet, "The Selection and Appointment of Magistrate Judges." An order establishing the merit selection panel composed of attorneys and other members of the community will be posted on the court's website. The panel will review all applications and recommend to the district judges the five persons it considers best qualified. Public comment will be requested on those persons. 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. Due consideration will be given to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, age (40 and over), gender, religion, national origin, or disability.

Application Forms: Application forms and more information on the magistrate judge position in this court may be obtained from the clerk of the district court. The <u>form is also available</u> on the court's Internet website. Applications signed by the applicant **must be received by 4:00 p.m. <u>September 4, 2018</u>**. Please email completed application packages in PDF format to UTD <u>HumanResources@utd.uscourts.gov</u> or mail to:

United States District Court Attn: Human Resources Southern Region Magistrate Judge Position 351 South West Temple, Room No. 2.118 Salt Lake City, UT 84101

**Confidentiality:** 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, essential court staff, and the judges of the district court. The panel's deliberations will remain confidential. However, as noted above, the names of the five persons considered best qualified by the merit selection panel will be disclosed to facilitate public comment.