

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2022-1

APPOINTMENT OF MERIT SELECTION COMMITTEE

The current term of office of Magistrate Judge Mark E. Ford of the Fort Smith Division expires on January 2, 2023. The current term of office of Magistrate Judge Barry A. Bryant of the Texarkana Division expires on February 18, 2023. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 631 and the policies promulgated by the Judicial Conference of the United States, the following individuals, all residents of the Western District of Arkansas, are hereby appointed as members of the Merit Selection Panel to assist the court in consideration of the reappointment of Judges Ford and Bryant to new eight-year terms:

James Pierce (Chairperson)
Deborah Covitz (non-lawyer)
Morse Gist
Fred L. Caddell

Kyra Jenner
Claudia Catlett (non-lawyer)
Greg Giles

In accordance with the Guide to Judiciary Policy, each member of the panel has received written notification of the restrictions imposed by Volume III, § 420.30.20(d) on being considered for a magistrate judge position.

The Chairperson shall call a meeting of the panel to review Judge Ford's and Judge Bryant's current service as magistrate judges and other experience, comments from members of the bar and public, and other evidence of the incumbents' good character, ability, and commitment to equal justice under the law.

Within 90 days of the date of this order, the panel shall submit a report as to each Magistrate as to whether it recommends the incumbent for an additional term of office.

SO ORDERED

Dated: August 9, 2022



Honorable Susan O. Hickey
Chief United States District Judge