

PRESS RELEASE

March 14, 2018

The United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, announced today that Bruce E. Reinhart has been selected by the Court's District Judges to be appointed United States Magistrate Judge. Mr. Reinhart will fill the magistrate judgeship position vacated upon the retirement of United States Magistrate Judge James M. Hopkins.

Mr. Reinhart earned his undergraduate degree from Princeton University in 1984 and his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1987, where he was a member of Law Review and served as Associate Editor and Special Project Editor. Mr. Reinhart originally hails from Somerville, New Jersey.

From 2008 until the present, Mr. Reinhart has been a trial lawyer in private practice both with his own law firm, Bruce E. Reinhart, P.A., and with McDonald Hopkins LLC, in West Palm Beach, Florida. His practice predominantly involved criminal defense in federal and state court, including white collar criminal defense work, representing subjects of Government investigations, and civil/complex litigation. In addition to his private practice, Mr. Reinhart previously served on the Court's CJA Panel representing indigent criminal defendants, served as an Ethics Commissioner on the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics, and provided pro bono representation through the Clemency Project 2014, which was a program jointly established by numerous bar associations to assist federal prisoners with clemency applications. From 1996 to 2008, Mr. Reinhart served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida, ultimately reaching the position of Supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorney. In addition to supervision duties, he managed a docket that covered the full spectrum of federal crimes, including narcotics, violent crimes, public corruption, financial frauds, child pornography and immigration. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, from 1994-1996, Mr. Reinhart served as Senior Policy Advisor, Acting Director of the Office of Policy Development and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of the Treasury in Washington, D.C. While there, he primarily focused on analyzing law enforcement policy proposals and was primarily responsible for drafting the Treasury Department's law enforcement strategic plan. Mr. Reinhart also worked as a trial attorney in the Public Integrity Section of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. from 1988-1994. While at the Department of Justice, he conducted all aspects of public integrity investigations and prosecutions nationwide. Mr. Reinhart's career at the Department of Justice commenced with his acceptance into the Attorney General's prestigious Honor Program, which admitted only six of 2500 applicants. Mr. Reinhart's legal career began in 1987-1988 as a law clerk to the Honorable Norma L. Shapiro, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

The announcement of Mr. Reinhart's selection culminates a broad search process that began in August of 2017. The Court appointed a selection panel, comprised of leaders in the legal community as well as non-lawyers in the community, to assist with the selection process. 64 well-qualified individuals applied. The selection panel reviewed all 64 submissions and elected to interview 15 candidates in person. Following these interviews, the selection panel recommended five finalists to the Court. The district judges interviewed the five finalists in November of last year. The Court selected Mr. Reinhart to fill the vacant magistrate judgeship. Mr. Reinhart's selection was not previously announced pending completion of an FBI and IRS background investigation report, as is standard to the appointment process. The procedures followed by the Court in this process are consistent with those approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States and documented in the Administrative Office of the United States Courts' publication entitled The Selection, Appointment, and Reappointment of United States Magistrate Judges, *Judges Information Series No. 2*.

After an informal swearing in, the Court anticipates that Magistrate Judge Reinhart will assume his duties at the Paul G. Rogers United States Courthouse in West Palm Beach, Florida effective March 19, 2018. A formal investiture ceremony will be scheduled at a later date.

Please contact Steven M. Larimore, Court Administrator • Clerk of Court, at (305) 523-5001 if you have any questions.

March 14, 2018