

Posted: January 6, 2017

**United States District Court
Southern District of Florida
Public Notice**

**United States Magistrate Judge
Fort Pierce, Florida**

The Judicial Conference of the United States has authorized the appointment of a full-time United States magistrate judge for the Southern District of Florida at Fort Pierce. This appointment will succeed the incumbent who will retire effective June 1, 2017. 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 heightened when the court reflects the community's racial, ethnic, and gender diversity.

The duties of the position are demanding and wide-ranging, including, but not limited to: 1) conduct of most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; 2) trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; 3) conduct of various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings on delegation from a district judge; 4) trial and disposition of civil cases upon consent of the litigants; and 5) assist the district court with any "additional duties as are not inconsistent with the Constitution and Laws of the United States." The basic authority of a United States magistrate judge is specified in 28 U.S.C. § 636.

To be qualified for the 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.

A merit selection panel has been appointed pursuant to [Administrative Order 2016-76](#) composed of attorneys and other members of the community will review all applicants and recommend to the district judges in confidence the names of at least 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. 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 5 U.S.C. app. 4 §§ 101-111) as implemented by the Judicial Conference of the United States. An affirmative effort will be made to give due consideration to all qualified applicants, including women and members of minority groups. The current annual salary of the position is \$186,852. The term of office is eight years.

All applicants are expected to review [Administrative Order 2011-50](#), in re: Procedures Governing Contact with District Judges during Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Process.

Click **here** for the official application. Completed applications must be submitted only by applicants personally to: Flsd_magistratejudgerecruitment@flsd.uscourts.gov.

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.

Instructions for completion and submission of the application are included on each application form.

Completed applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 6, 2017.

***** APPLICATIONS ARE NO LONGER BEING ACCEPTED *****

THE DISTRICT COURT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER