

United States District Court  
Southern District of Florida

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**January 28, 2013**

Chief United States District Judge Federico A. Moreno announced today that Patrick M. Hunt has been selected by the Court's district judges to be appointed United States Magistrate Judge. He filled the magistrate judgeship position that was vacated upon the elevation of United States Magistrate Judge Robin S. Rosenbaum to her current position of United States District Judge. His informal swearing in as a Magistrate Judge occurred today in Miami, and after which he assumed his new duties in the Fort Lauderdale Division.

Judge Hunt earned his undergraduate degree from Tulane University in New Orleans and his law degree from the University of Miami School of Law. He has served with distinction for the past 27 years in both private practice and with the Federal Public Defender's Office, having served most recently since 1995 as an Assistant Federal Public Defender.

The announcement of Judge Hunt's selection culminates a broad search process that began in June of 2012. During that search, 80 applicants submitted their qualifications to a Magistrate Judge Selection Panel comprised of members of the local bar and community appointed by the Court. The panel reviewed those submissions and elected to interview 16 candidates in person. Those interviews resulted in the Panel's recommendation of 5 finalists to the Court. Finalists were interviewed by the Court's district judges in November 2012, at which time a preliminary selection was made. Judge Hunt's selection, however, was not announced publicly pending completion of an FBI and IRS background investigation report. This report is standard to the appointment process and usually takes a number of months to complete.

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*.

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

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