

PRESS RELEASE

July 2, 2013

Chief United States District Judge Federico A. Moreno announced yesterday that Alicia O. Valle has been selected by the Court's district judges to be appointed United States Magistrate Judge. Her appointment will fill the magistrate judgeship position that was vacated upon the retirement of United States Magistrate Judge Ted E. Bandstra. She will be assuming her new duties in the Fort Lauderdale Division as of August 12, 2013.

The future Judge Valle earned her undergraduate degree from Rutgers University and her law degree from Harvard Law School. She has served with distinction for the past 29 years in private practice and the United States Attorney's Office in New Jersey and South Florida. Having served since 1994 as an Assistant United States Attorney in South Florida, in 2005 she was appointed Special Counsel to the U. S. Attorney, a position she has continued to hold with the last four U. S. Attorneys.

The announcement of this selection culminates a broad search process that began last January. During that search, 70 applicants submitted their qualifications to a selection panel appointed by the Court. The selection panel reviewed those submissions and elected to interview 15 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 April 2013, at which time a preliminary selection was made. The 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 three to four 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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