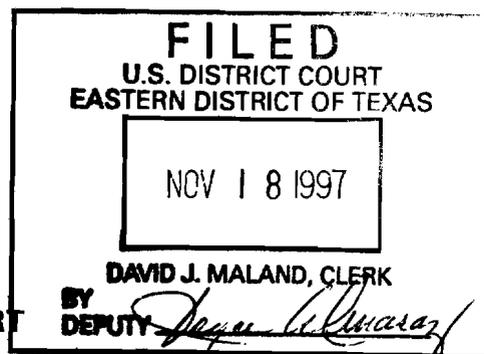


General Order No. 97-20



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

**GENERAL ORDER APPOINTING MAGISTRATE JUDGE MERIT SELECTION PANEL**

At its September 23, 1997 meeting, the Judicial Conference of the United States authorized the creation of a new magistrate judge position for the Eastern District of Texas to be located in Texarkana. Accordingly, in conformance with 28 U.S.C. § 631(b)(5) and with the approval of the judges of this court, it is hereby ORDERED that the following persons are appointed to serve on a Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel:

Franklin Jones, Jr., Esq. (Chair)  
Jones & Jones, Inc.  
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Marshall, TX 75761

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Dewey Gonsoulin, Esq.  
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Beaumont, TX 77704

Julie Coker Tidwell  
3423 Pine Street  
Texarkana, TX 75503

The Panel shall review each applicant's qualifications in accordance with the applicable regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States. See Appendix H, *The Selection and Appointment of United States Magistrate Judges* (Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, June 1997). Within ninety days of the date of this order, the Panel

shall also provide the court with an unranked list of five names of persons that a majority of the members of the Panel think are fully qualified to be a United States magistrate judge.

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1997.

FOR THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard A. Schell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

RICHARD A. SCHELL  
Chief Judge