

**FULL PUBLIC NOTICE
FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEW UNITED STATES
MAGISTRATE JUDGE IN PLANO, TEXAS**

This is a notice regarding the appointment of a new full-time United States magistrate judge for Sherman Division of the Eastern District of Texas in the Plano Courthouse. The new magistrate judge will succeed the Hon. Don D. Bush who will retire in August 2016.

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. They include: conducting (1) most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; (2) trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; (3) various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings on delegation from a district judge; and (4) trial and disposition of civil cases upon consent of the litigants. The basic authority of a United States magistrate judge is specified in 28 U.S.C. § 636.

To be qualified for 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 composed of attorneys and other members of the community will review all applicants and recommend to the district judges in confidence the 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 without regard to race,

color, age (40 and over), gender, religion, national origin, or disability. The current annual salary of the position is \$185,012. The term of office is eight years.

More information on the magistrate judge position is available from David A. O'Toole, Clerk of Court, 211 West Ferguson St., Tyler, TX 75702. He can be reached at 903-590-1008 or david_o'toole@txed.uscourts.gov. The application form for the position is available on the court's website www.txed.uscourts.gov. **The completed application must be submitted as a single pdf via e-mail by 5:00 p.m. CST on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 to the following email address: hr@txed.uscourts.gov. Please reference Sherman Magistrate Judge Application in the subject line. No paper applications, please.**

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, the judges of the district court and necessary court personnel. The panel's deliberations will remain confidential.