

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

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

The current term of office for United States Magistrate Judge Keith F. Giblin is due to expire on September 30, 2020. The judges of this court have voted to consider reappointing Judge Giblin. Accordingly, in conformance with 28 U.S.C. § 631, it is **ORDERED** that the following persons are hereby appointed to serve on a Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel:

Marianne Laine, Esq. (Chair)  
[mlaine@clarkhill.com](mailto:mlaine@clarkhill.com)  
Beaumont, TX

Frank Calvert, Esq.  
Beaumont, TX

Kevin Sekaly Cribbs, Esq.  
Beaumont, TX

Lisa Flournoy, Esq.  
Lufkin, TX

Rey Morin, Esq.  
Nacogdoches, TX

James Erick Payne, Esq.  
Beaumont, TX

Michele Smith, Esq.  
Beaumont, TX

Mark Sparks, Esq.  
Beaumont, TX

Bill Yoes, Esq.  
Beaumont, TX

Dr. James (Jimmy) M. Simmons  
Beaumont, TX

Dr. David Willard  
Beaumont, TX

The above-mentioned panel shall review the incumbent judge's current service as magistrate judge, the comments from members of the bar and public, and other evidence of the incumbent's good character, legal ability, temperament and commitment to equal justice under the law. The panel shall report to the court within ninety days of the date of this order as to whether the incumbent is recommended for reappointment.

Additionally, the Clerk of Court is directed to cause to be published public notices regarding the reappointment of Magistrate Judge Keith F. Giblin. The notices shall be published in conformance with the procedures specified in Chapter 13 of *The Selection, Appointment and Reappointment of United States Magistrate Judges* (Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, October 2016).

Effective September 13, 2016, the Judicial Conference of the U.S. Courts adopted amendments to the regulations governing the selection, appointment, and reappointment of magistrate judges. One of the amendments creates a new obligation on the part of the court to notify merit selection panel members in writing of the restriction in § 420.30.20(d) as it applies to them, which essentially restricts panel members from applying for magistrate judge positions until one year has elapsed since the panel member served on the panel. This new provision is located in the regulations at § 420.30.10(c). All panel members have been advised in writing of the restriction set forth in § 420.30.20(d).

**So ORDERED and SIGNED this 10th day of February, 2020.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RODNEY GILSTRAP  
Chief Judge