

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

In re: Administrative Orders of the Chief Judge

Case No. 3:24-mc-20-MMH

**ORDER ESTABLISHING MERIT SELECTION PANEL TO CONSIDER
APPLICATIONS FOR A UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

Under 28 U.S.C. § 631(b)(5) and the policies of the Judicial Conference of the United States, a merit selection panel is established to consider applications for a United States Magistrate Judge in the Tampa Division. The panel is effective January 16, 2026, and it comprises:

Erin Jackson, Chair
Charbel J. Barakat
Jounice Nealy-Brown
Jack E. Fernandez
Joshua C. Webb
Wm. Cary Wright

Mike Griffin (non-lawyer)
Jessica Muroff (non-lawyer)
Ben Walker (non-lawyer)

The panel must review each application and may interview applicants as the panel determines. No later than **March 12, 2026**, the panel must recommend to the district judges the five applicants whom the panel considers best qualified. From among the five applicants, the district judges will select and appoint the new magistrate judge. The Court has notified each panel member in writing of the one-year restriction on a panel member's applying for

a magistrate judgeship. *See Guide to Judiciary Policy*, Vol. 3, Ch. 4, § 420.30.20(d).

DONE AND ORDERED in Jacksonville, Florida on January 16, 2026.


MARCIA MORALES HOWARD
Chief United States District Judge