IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

IN RE: THE APPOINTMENT OF A
MERIT SELECTION PANEL TO MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING
THE APPOINTMENT OF A UNITED
STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

GENERAL ORDER NO. 2024-04

Magistrate Judge Susan M. Bazis was appointed as a United States District Judge on April 10, 2024. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 631(b)(5) ("the statute") and the regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States governing such matters ("the regulations"), the district judges of this Court have agreed to create a merit selection panel for the purpose of making recommendations to the Court regarding the appointment of Magistrate Bazis's successor.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. A merit selection panel is appointed, consisting of the following persons:

Dean Joshua P. Fershee Creighton University School of Law Attorney Member 2500 California Plaza Omaha, Nebraska 68178

Stephen S. Gealy
Baylor, Evnen, Wolfe
& Tannehill, LLP
Attorney Member
Union Bank Place
1248 O Street, Suite 900
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Richard L. Herink Community Member 9333 Whispering Wind Road Lincoln, Nebraska 68512 Ruth A. Horvatich McGrath North Attorney Member First National Tower, Suite 3700 1601 Dodge Street Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Danielle C. Jefferis Assistant Professor of Law University of Nebraska College of Law Attorney Member 1875 N. 42nd Street McCollum Hall 261N Lincoln, Nebraska 68583 Paul D. Kratz Community Member 16323 Spring Circle Omaha, Nebraska 68130

Susan T. Lehr United States Attorney Attorney Member 1620 Dodge Street, Suite 1400 Omaha, Nebraska 68102-1506

Rodrigo Lopez, CMB Chairman, AmeriSphere Companies Community Member Capitol Place 909 Capitol Avenue, Suite 600 Omaha, Nebraska 68102-1295 Yvonne D. Sosa Assistant Federal Public Defender Attorney Member 222 South 15th Street, Suite 300N One Central Park Plaza Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Jennifer Turco Meyer Dyer Law Attorney Member 2611 S. 117th Street Omaha, Nebraska 68144

- 2. Dean Joshua P. Fershee is the panel chairperson.
- 3. The panel will perform the duties and have the powers provided by the statute, the regulations, this order, and such instructions as may be provided by Chief Judge Robert F. Rossiter, Jr. that are not inconsistent with the statute and regulations.
- 4. All panel members have been advised in writing that in order for a former merit selection panel member to be considered for a magistrate judge position, one year must have elapsed between the application deadline for the position and the earlier of: 1) the date when the panel on which the former member served submitted its report to the court, or 2) the date when the former member resigned from the panel. *Guide to Judiciary Policy*, Volume 3, Chapter 4, §§ 420.30.10(d) and 420.30.20(d).
- 5. After the Court has given published notice as required by law, but on or before July 15, 2024, the panel will make a written confidential recommendation to the Court identifying the names of the five persons it has determined to be most qualified.

Dated this 16th day of April 2024.

BY THE COURT:

Robert F. Rossiter, Jr.

Chief United States District Judge

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