

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA**

**IN THE MATTER OF
APPOINTMENT OF MERIT
SELECTION PANEL REGARDING
THE REAPPOINTMENT OF
INCUMBENT MAGISTRATE
JUDGE**

**PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**
No. 26-AO-0001-P

Pursuant to the Federal Magistrates Act, 28 U.S.C. § 631, and the regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States that establish standards and procedures for the reappointment of a United States Magistrate Judge, the court hereby appoints individuals who have significant ties to the community of the district as members of the merit selection panel that will consider the reappointment of Magistrate Judge Mark A. Roberts, whose current term of office is due to expire on September 16, 2026.

The members of the merit selection panel are as follows:

1. Chairperson Tim Hill—lawyer
2. Brad Hansen—lawyer
3. Dorilys Meyer—non-lawyer
4. Frances Haas—lawyer
5. John Gray—lawyer
6. Michael Lahammer—lawyer
7. Ron Telecky—non-lawyer
8. Timothy Duax—lawyer

Each member of the merit selection panel received written notice regarding the restriction on merit selection panel members being considered for a magistrate judge position.

The merit selection panel is directed to receive and examine comments from members of the bar and the public regarding Judge Roberts's character, judgment, legal ability, temperament, and commitment to equal justice under the law, and to consider other evidence of these factors when making a recommendation to the court regarding the reappointment or non-reappointment of Judge Roberts for an additional 8-year term. The merit selection panel is directed to provide a written report to the court by no later than April 9, 2026.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED this 9th day of January, 2026.



C.J. WILLIAMS
CHIEF JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA

Certified original placed in Public Administrative Order Book.

Copies disbursed this 9th day of January 2026 via email to:

Chambers of Chief Judge C.J. Williams (Sali Van Weelden)

Senior Judge Linda R. Reade

Chambers of Judge Leonard T. Strand (Donaline Schmith)

Chambers of Chief Magistrate Judge Kelly K.E. Mahoney (Jami Lesko)

Chambers of Magistrate Judge Mark A. Roberts (Amy Steele)

Paul De Young, Clerk of District Court

Misti Michel, Chief Deputy

Kristen Sanchez, Case Administration Supervisor

Brent Culbertson, IT Director

Jill Bushaw, Chief Probation Officer

Brad Hansen, Federal Defender

Leif Olson, US Attorney

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