

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

United States Magistrate Judge Jerome T. Kearney's current term will expire on April 16, 2026. Magistrate Judge Kearney has indicated his willingness to accept reappointment. The United States District Court is required by law to establish a Merit Selection Panel of citizens to consider the reappointment of Magistrate Judge Kearney to a new eight-year term. The Court has appointed this Panel.

The duties of the Magistrate Judge in this Court include the following: (1) conducting most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; (2) handling trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; (3) conducting various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings on delegation from the District Judges; and (4) handling trial and disposition of civil cases upon consent of the litigants.

On behalf of the Panel, the Court invites comments from members of the Bar and the public about whether Magistrate Judge Kearney should be recommended for reappointment. Comments should be directed to:

Merit Selection Panel
c/o United States District Court Clerk's Office
600 West Capitol Avenue, Suite A149
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Comments must be received no later than September 26, 2025.