

OCT 11 2016

for the Northern Mariana Islands
By _____
(Deputy Clerk)

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER OF:

GENERAL ORDER NO. 16-00004

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MERIT SELECTION
PANEL TO CONSIDER THE REAPPOINTMENT
OF HEATHER L. KENNEDY AS A PART-TIME
MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT
COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS.

The Judicial Conference of the United States has authorized the combined Clerk of Court/Part-time Magistrate Judge position for the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. The current term of office of United States Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy is due to expire on June 10, 2017. In accordance with 28 U.S.C § 631 and regulations promulgated by the Judicial Conference of the United States, the court is required to establish a Merit Selection Panel to consider the reappointment of the Magistrate Judge to a new four-year term.

Effective October 11, 2016, the following individuals are hereby appointed to serve as members of the panel:

- Ms. Jeanne G. Quinata, Esq., Chair
- Mr. Sean Frink, Esq., Member
- Mr. Patrick V. Diaz, Member

The panel shall undertake its responsibilities in compliance with the standards and procedures promulgated pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 631(b)(5), and shall review the incumbent's

1 performance in office as a magistrate judge, and consider comments received from members of the
2 bar and the public, and any other pertinent evidence as to the incumbent's good character, judgment,
3 legal ability, temperament, and commitment to equal justice under the law.

4 The panel shall submit its confidential report to the Court by January 9, 2017, as to whether it
5 recommends the incumbent for reappointment to an additional term of office. The panel will have
6 the full support of the Clerk's Office in carrying out its duties. The panel Chair should contact Chief
7 Deputy Clerk William Bezzant or Judicial Chambers Administrator Amanda Hayes to request any
8 assistance.

9 IT IS SO ORDERED this 11th day of October, 2016.

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13 RAMONA V. MANGLONA
14 Chief Judge
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