

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**ORDER**

Subject to the approval of the Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System, the Court intends to appoint a Magistrate Judge to fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Dana M. Douglas to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED** that a Merit Selection Panel is established effective May 22, 2023, to recommend to the Court those applicants it considers best qualified to serve as United States Magistrate Judge. The following individuals (11 attorneys and 2 non-attorney members) are appointed to the Panel:

Bobby Delise, Chair

Blaine LeCesne

Cherrell Simms Taplin

Matthew Block

Edward Koehl

Michael Fanning

Rabbi David Gerber (non-attorney)

Erica Sensenbrenner Bergeron

Laura Ashley

Darren Patin

Valerie Fontenot

William Snowden

Edgar “Dooky” Chase, III (non-practicing attorney)<sup>1</sup>

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Merit Selection Panel make a report to the Court with its six (6) recommendations by October 19, 2023.

All members of the Panel have been advised that Merit Selection Panel members are restricted from applying for a magistrate judge position for a one-year period under Section 420.30.20(d) of the selection and appointment regulations.

**NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2023.

  
**NANNETTE JOLIVETTE BROWN  
CHIEF JUDGE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Chase retired from the practice of law in 2011.