

PUBLIC NOTICE

**REAPPOINTMENT OF INCUMBENT
FULL-TIME UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE**

THE HONORABLE MICHELLE L. PETERSON

July 16, 2026

The current term of office of full-time United States Magistrate Judge Michelle L. Peterson at Seattle, Washington is due to expire on February 26, 2027. The United States District Court for the Western District of Washington is required by law to establish a panel of citizens to consider the reappointment of Magistrate Judge Peterson to a new eight-year term.

The duties of the magistrate judge position include the following:

- (1) Conduct preliminary proceedings in felony cases;
- (2) Trial and disposition of petty and misdemeanor cases arising from government facilities in the district;
- (3) Trial and disposition of other federal misdemeanor cases;
- (4) Trial and disposition of civil cases upon consent of the litigants;
- (5) Assisting district judges in disposition of prisoner petitions and Social Security appeals;
- (6) Conducting various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings on reference from the district judges; and,
- (7) Conducting settlement conferences.

Comments from members of the bar and the public are invited as to whether the incumbent magistrate judge should be recommended by the panel for reappointment by the court and should be directed to:

Joshua C. Lewis
District Court Executive/Clerk of Court
United States Courthouse
700 Stewart Street, Suite 2310
Seattle, Washington 98101
Attention – Reappointment of Magistrate Judge

Or via e-mail to:

magistratejudgeapplication@wawd.uscourts.gov

Comments must be received by August 21, 2026.