

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND**

ORDER APPOINTING A MERIT SELECTION PANEL

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 631, and the Regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States Establishing Standards and Procedures for the Selection, Appointment, and Reappointment of United States Magistrate Judges, a Merit Section Panel is hereby created to recommend to the active district judges of the Court for nomination five (5) candidates the panel determines as best qualified to serve as a United States Magistrate Judge.

This Court hereby appoints the following thirteen (13) lawyers and two (2) non-lawyers as the Merit Selection Panel to consider the appointment:

Christopher Knox Smith	Associate Justice of the R.I. Superior Court, Panel Chair
Timothy K. Baldwin	Attorney at Law
Marc DeSisto	Attorney at Law
John Foley	Attorney at Law
Sean M. Fontes	Attorney at Law
Kevin Love Hubbard	Attorney at Law
Prof. Niki Kuckes	Attorney at Law
Lynette J. Labinger	Attorney at Law
Eric B. Mack	Attorney at Law
Charles A. Tamuleviz	Attorney at Law
Jennifer Wood	Attorney at Law
Joshua D. Xavier	Attorney at Law
Prof. Michael J. Yelnosky	Attorney at Law
Karen Ann Santilli	Greater Providence YMCA
Matthew Shumate	City of Providence

In accordance with the above regulations, the Panel will report to the court no later than December 31, 2024, its recommendations.

Panel members are hereby advised that they cannot be considered for a Magistrate Judge position until 1 year elapses between the application deadline for the position and the earlier of: (a) the date when the panel on which the former member served submitted its report to the Court; or (b) the date when the former member resigned from the panel. Merit Selection Panel members have been advised in writing of the restriction set forth in §420.30.20(d) of the Regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States Establishing Standards and Procedures for the Appointment and Reappointment of United States Magistrate Judges.

By the Court:

September 13, 2024

/s/ John J. McConnell Jr., Chief Judge