

SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice Loretta H. Rush
Indiana Supreme Court
311 State House
200 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2732



OF INDIANA

May 8, 2024

Via Email and Hand Delivery

The Honorable Eric J. Holcomb
Governor of Indiana
c/o Sharon Jackson, Deputy General Counsel
200 W. Washington Street, Statehouse Room 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Holcomb:

As the chairs of the Marion County Judicial Selection Committee, we are pleased to transmit the names of the three candidates the committee found to be the most qualified candidates from among those who applied for the current vacancy in the Marion Superior Court. This judicial position became available when the Honorable Cynthia J. Ayers announced her retirement, effective March 15, 2024. On April 26, 2024, the committee met in person and interviewed all thirteen applicants, ultimately selecting three nominees:

Magistrate Sarah J. Glasser
Magistrate Marcia J. Harper
Magistrate Patricia C. McMath

In selecting these candidates, the committee evaluated and weighed the nonexclusive list of statutory factors in Indiana Code section 33-33-49-13.4, including legal education, activities in public service, efforts and achievements in improving the administration of justice, diversity, legal experience and reputation as a trial lawyer or judge, and probable judicial temperament. The committee also considered the applicants' experience given the criminal docket of the incoming judge.

On behalf of the committee, we offer summaries of each candidate's qualifications in the order listed above.

Magistrate Sarah J. Glasser

Magistrate Sarah J. Glasser has served as a judicial officer in the Marion Superior Court since March 2021. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in humanistic studies from Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, IN, in 2001. Following her undergraduate studies, Magistrate Glasser pursued her law degree at the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law (formerly known as the John Marshall Law School), graduating in 2006. During her time in law school, she gained invaluable experience as an intern with a product liability and insurance defense firm in Chicago, while also serving as a research and teaching assistant for two law school professors.

After completing her legal education, Magistrate Glasser returned to Indianapolis. In 2007, she joined Hardamon & Associates LLC as an associate attorney, specializing in medical debt collection. Seeking to serve the community and gain courtroom experience, she transitioned to the Marion County Public Defender Agency in 2008 as a deputy public defender.

During her initial years at the Public Defender Agency, Magistrate Glasser focused on misdemeanor cases while also working in various specialized courts such as mental health, drug courts, and IV-D. In 2009, she was promoted to the domestic violence division, where she handled a substantial caseload and participated in numerous trials. In recognition of her skills, she was promoted again in 2011, this time to handle D felony and level 6 felony cases, where she gained extensive jury trial experience.

In tandem with her public defender roles, Magistrate Glasser established a solo practice in 2015, focusing on guardianship and probate matters. She later joined Griffith Law Group in 2016 and Wanzer Edwards PC in 2017, where she specialized in family law and criminal law litigation, expanding her legal expertise.

In March 2021, Magistrate Glasser was appointed as a magistrate in Initial Hearing Court, where she reviewed affidavits to make probable cause determinations.. After nine months in that role, she transitioned to the Family Division where she presided over preliminary and final hearings for cases involving protective orders, dissolutions, paternity, custody disputes, guardianships, children in need of services, and child support.

In August 2023, Magistrate Glasser accepted an assignment to Marion Superior Court 8 where she currently presides over various probate matters, including supervised and unsupervised estates, guardianship matters for incapacitated adults, emergency detention applications, and involuntary commitments.

Outside of her judicial duties, Magistrate Glasser has actively contributed to the legal community, serving as a judge for the Indiana Bar Foundation's mock trial competition and volunteering her time at various events organized by the Indianapolis Bar Association. She is also involved in community service initiatives, such as Habitat for Humanity's Women Build program and educating students about the judicial system, including the establishment of a science club for grade-school children.

Magistrate Marcia J. Harper

Magistrate Marcia "Marcie" J. Harper has served as a judicial officer in Marion County since 2008. A resident of Marion County since 1992, Magistrate Harper earned her Bachelor of Arts in secondary education from Purdue University in 1991, followed by her Juris Doctorate from Valparaiso University in 1998. During law school, she participated in mock trial, served as a teaching assistant to the dean, and clerked for two different law firms.

Following her legal education, Magistrate Harper joined Laudig, George, Rutherford, Sipes Law Office in Indianapolis, initially as a law clerk and later as an associate after passing the bar exam. In this role, she represented a diverse clientele in criminal defense, contracts, litigation, and juvenile delinquency. In 2002, Magistrate Harper established Ferree Law Office, P.C., where she continued her legal practice, focusing on criminal and family law matters, wills, and probate.

During her time in solo practice, Magistrate Harper also served part-time with the Marion County Public Defender Agency, representing parents in cases involving children in need of services (CHINS) and the termination of parental rights. Additionally, from 2002 to 2005, she worked for the Indiana State Department of Health as a federal grant administrator for an emergency preparedness grant that was awarded to Greene County.

In 2008, Magistrate Harper was appointed as a commissioner in the Paternity Division of the Marion Circuit Court, where she gained expertise in paternity law, handling a substantial caseload involving paternity, custody, parenting time, child

support, and protective orders. Transitioning to the Marion Superior Court in 2016, she presided over criminal initial hearings before assuming duties as a magistrate in the Juvenile Division, presiding over CHINS cases, paternity matters, custody disputes, and guardianships.

In 2021, Magistrate Harper transitioned to the Family Division, where she currently presides over a diverse caseload, including paternity, dissolutions, guardianships, adoptions, and protective orders. She has played a key role in the development of court practices and services, including the upcoming establishment of the Guardianship and Paternity Clinic in collaboration with Indiana Legal Services.

Outside of her duties on the bench, Magistrate Harper has contributed to the legal community by serving on various committees, including the Judicial Conference of Indiana's Civil Benchbook Committee and the Protective Order Benchbook Committee. A member of the Indiana State Bar Association since 1997, she has served on the Board of Governors and chaired the Young Lawyers Section. In the community, Magistrate Harper is an active member of the local Speedway chapter of Kappa Kappa Kappa, Inc., a philanthropic organization.

Magistrate Patricia C. McMath

Magistrate Patricia C. McMath has served as a magistrate in the Marion Superior Court since January 2021. She received her undergraduate degree in business from Indiana University in 1984, and subsequently attended Indiana University Maurer School of Law, where she was awarded the Maurer School of Law Fellowship based on her high LSAT scores.

After earning her law degree, Magistrate McMath worked as the chief judicial law clerk for Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Robert H. Staton, gaining invaluable experience in appellate law. Following her clerkship, she joined the law firm of Wooden McLaughlin & Sterner where she focused on collection, bankruptcy, and real estate matters.

Magistrate McMath then returned to the appellate court, serving as a judicial law clerk for Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Betty Barteau from 1991 to 1997. During this time, she also worked as an adjunct legal writing instructor for the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law and received a Teaching Excellence Recognition Award in 1999.

From 1996 to 2010, Magistrate McMath served as a contract appellate public defender for the Marion County Public Defender Agency and the Indiana State Public Defender. Her dedication to justice led her to join the Marion County Public Defender Agency full-time from 2010 to 2016, where she represented indigent defendants in a wide range of criminal appeals.

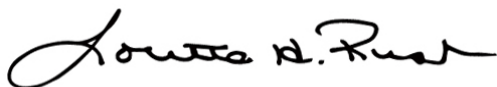
In 2017, Magistrate MacMath joined the Office of the Indiana Attorney General, where she held several key positions, including section chief for civil appeals and assistant chief deputy. In these roles, she managed the civil appeals caseload, represented the State in all civil appeals, and supervised staff members.

In January 2021, Magistrate McMath was appointed as a magistrate in the Civil Division. In her current role, she presides over hearings on various matters, including petitions for protective orders, evictions, and motions for summary judgement. She has conducted many bench trials dealing with issues such as breach of contract, collections, foreclosures, and personal injury damages. She has also presided over six jury trials.

Off the bench, Magistrate McMath is actively involved in the legal community, currently serving on a working group to re-write Admission and Discipline Rules 23 and 25. She also played a pivotal role in establishing the Indianapolis Bar Association's Legal Line program that allows the public to call for free legal advice, and she currently serves as a member of the Indianapolis Bar Foundation's Impact Fund/Community Empowerment Committee. Magistrate McMath is dedicated to mentoring young students and attorneys and has served as a judge in various competitions.

We would be pleased to discuss any of these nominees with you in greater detail. Based on their interviews and the Committee's assessment, each nominee has a personality that is well-suited for the bench as well as the legal ability and professional experience to serve with distinction. Our Committee is confident that each nominee is of high caliber and would be a lasting credit to the Marion Superior Court.

Sincerely,



Loretta H. Rush
*Chief Justice of Indiana
and MCJSC Chairperson*



Robert R. Altice, Jr.
*Chief Judge, Court of Appeals of Indiana
and MCJSC Vice Chairperson*

cc: Joseph R. Heerens, General Counsel, Office of Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb