

**IN THE MATTER OF REAPPOINTMENT OF A FULLTIME  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE – BISMARCK**

IT IS ORDERED the following named persons are appointed to serve as a Merit Selection Panel which will make a recommendation to the Court in the consideration of the reappointment of United States Magistrate Judge Clare R. Hochhalter to serve this district for an eight-year term. The Panel will consider responses resulting from the public notice issued by the Clerk of Court and make a recommendation to the Court relative to the reappointment of incumbent Magistrate Judge Clare R. Hochhalter.

**ATTORNEYS**

1. David Hagler (Chair)  
Assistant United States Attorney  
220 E. Rosser Avenue, Suite 372  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
[David.Hagler@usdoj.gov](mailto:David.Hagler@usdoj.gov)
2. Erin Bolinger  
Assistant Public Defender  
100 West Broadway, Suite 230  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
[Erin\\_Bolinger@fd.org](mailto:Erin_Bolinger@fd.org)
3. Jane Sportiello  
Assistant Attorney General  
500 N. Ninth St.  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
[jsportiello@nd.gov](mailto:jsportiello@nd.gov)
4. Petra Mandigo Hulm  
Clerk of Court, North Dakota Supreme Court  
Judicial Wing, First Fl.  
600 E. Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505  
[phulm@ndcourts.gov](mailto:phulm@ndcourts.gov)

5. Amy Oster  
Crowley Fleck PLLP  
100 W. Broadway, Suite 250  
Bismarck, ND 58502  
[aoster@crowleyfleck.com](mailto:aoster@crowleyfleck.com)

**NON-ATTORNEYS**

6. Dave Carpenter  
Moffit, ND
7. Candace Schafer  
Mandan, ND

David Hagler will serve as chairperson and provide the Court with notice of the Merit Selection Panel's recommendation. The Court will reimburse costs of expenses incurred by members while serving on the Merit Selection Panel. The Clerk of Court shall provide administrative support to the Merit Selection Panel.

Dated this 6th day of July, 2026.

/s/ Peter D. Welte

Peter D. Welte, Chief Judge  
United States District Court