UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA WESTERN DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE SELECTION OF A FULL-TIME UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE, WESTERN DIVISION

ORDER APPOINTING
MERIT SELECTION PANEL

A Merit Selection Panel is appointed to assist the United States District Judges in their selection of a new full-time magistrate judge residing in the Western Division. The panel will review the applications received for the magistrate judge position and will evaluate the applicants.

By **January 16, 2018**, the panel will report to the court the names of up to five persons it deems most qualified among the applicants. The report may contain written reasons substantiating the panel's decision. All information received by the panel on all applicants as a result of this process should be included as part of the record submitted to the court. All information made available to the members of the panel in the performance of their duties, including the names of applicants and the identities of individuals recommended by the panel, must be kept in strict confidence by the panel and the court.

The court appoints the following members of the Merit Selection Panel:

John Stanton Dorsey, Chair Randolph J. Seiler, Attorney Neil Fulton, Attorney Michael A. Wilson, Attorney Heather Dawn Thompson, Attorney Ruth Samuelson, Non-attorney Karen Mortimer, Non-attorney

The effective date of the panel's appointment is **November 6, 2017**.

Dated October <u>13</u>, 2017.

BY THE COURT:

JEFEREY L. VIKEN

CHIEF JUDGE