

## **COURT INFORMATION RELEASE**

## DISTRICT JUDGES SELECT ERIC I. LONG TO SERVE AS U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS

URBANA - Chief Judge James E. Shadid announced that Eric I. Long has been selected and appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Central District of Illinois. The appointment fills the vacancy created by the retirement notice of United States Magistrate Judge David G. Bernthal, effective April 30, 2015. The selection is made by the United States District Judges from the Central District of Illinois, after receiving, and considering, a report from the Merit Selection Panel. Judge Bernthal will remain with the court for an indefinite period of time as a Recall United States Magistrate Judge.

Judge Long served as the First Assistant United States Attorney and Criminal Chief for the Office of the United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois. He served in that capacity since August 2013, after previously serving as an Assistant United States Attorney, Civil Chief and Branch Chief since August 2002.

Judge Long received his Bachelor of Science Degree in finance from the University of Illinois in Champaign and his Law Degree from Southern Illinois University School of Law in Carbondale.