



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Karen L. McNaught appointed as United States Magistrate Judge  
April 1, 2022**

On April 1, 2022, Karen L. McNaught was appointed as United States Magistrate Judge upon the recommendation of a duly appointed Merit Selection Panel and with the concurrence of the District Judges of the Court. Judge McNaught fills the seat recently vacated by Judge Tom Schanzle-Haskins. She was appointed for an eight-year term and will preside in the Springfield Division over civil cases by consent of the parties and preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; the trial and disposition of misdemeanor cases; discovery hearings, settlement conferences, and various other pretrial hearings in civil cases; and other matters as may be assigned.

Judge McNaught attended Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, receiving her Bachelor of Arts in May of 1982 and her JD in May of 1988. Upon graduation from law school, Judge McNaught began her career with the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, where she worked from 1988 until 2017, retiring as Springfield Bureau Chief for the General Law Bureau. After leaving the Attorney General's office, she went into private practice, first with the firm of Cassidy Schade, LLP and then with O'Halloran Kosoff Geitner & Cook, LLC.

For additional information, please contact Clerk of Court, Shig Yasunaga, at (217) 373-5830.