

For Immediate Release

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

Laura A. Briggs, Clerk  
46 East Ohio Street  
Room 105  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

**Chief Judge James E. Shadid and Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer  
to Sit by Designation on the  
U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana**

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana – October 17, 2017: The Judicial Emergency in the Southern District of Indiana, exacerbated by the recent deaths of Senior District Judge Larry J. McKinney and Magistrate Judge Denise K. LaRue, is ongoing. In a continued effort to ease the Judicial Emergency, Chief Judge James E. Shadid, of the United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois, and District Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, with the consent of Chief Judge Ruben Castillo, will assist with the caseload of the Southern District of Indiana, sitting by designation. The Honorable Diane P. Wood, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, designated Chief Judge Shadid and Judge Pallmeyer on October 5, 2017 and October 12, 2017, respectively.

The Southern District of Indiana is in a state of Judicial Emergency by virtue of an existing judicial vacancy and a weighted filing in excess of 800 cases per Judgeship. In the 12-month period ending June 30, 2017, the weighted filings per Judgeship in the Southern District stood at 915, first in the Circuit and second in the nation. At the time of his death on September 20, 2017, Judge McKinney had 250 pending civil cases and 27 pending criminal cases. Most cases have been reassigned to his colleagues in the Southern District of Indiana, but additional assistance is needed.

Therefore, Judge Pallmeyer will try a civil matter, *Sterett Crane and Rigging, LLC v. White Construction, Inc.*, 1:16-cv-00094, beginning on October 23, 2017. Chief Judge Shadid will sit by designation to hear *United States v. Pierson*, 1:16-cr-00206, a criminal trial scheduled to begin on November 6, 2017.

Chief Judge Jane E. Magnus-Stinson said, “We are very grateful to Chief Judge Shadid and Judge Pallmeyer for their willingness to preside over these trials. By stepping in on such short notice, they have ensured that justice in the Southern District of Indiana continues to be done in a timely manner. The Court deeply appreciates their assistance, and the continued assistance of magistrate and district judges from throughout the Circuit, during this time of unprecedented loss.”

For further information regarding the designations of Chief Judge Shadid and Judge Pallmeyer to the Southern District of Indiana, please contact Chief Deputy Clerk Alison Chestovich at (317) 229-3710.