

## **Press Release**

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

Roger Sharpe, Clerk  
46 E. Ohio Street, Room 105  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

#### Magistrate Judge Mario Garcia Presents: Introduction to the Southern District of Indiana's Recruited Counsel Program

INDIANAPOLIS (September 1, 2021) – The United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana will sponsor a training session for attorneys interested in learning more about the Court's Recruited Counsel program. The training will take place on Friday, October 8, 2021 from 12:00pm to 1:00pm in the Jury Assembly Room (Room 172), first floor, Birch Bayh Federal Building & United States Courthouse, 46 E. Ohio St., Indianapolis, Indiana.

The program will focus on Local Rule 87 of the Southern District of Indiana – Representation of Indigent Litigants. Pursuant to the Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct, which state that it is "the basic responsibility" and an "ethical and social obligation" of all lawyers to provide pro bono legal services, the Southern District of Indiana Local Rule 87 sets forth the practical considerations for appointment through the Court's Voluntary or Obligatory Panels.

Attorneys will gain an overview of the Southern District of Indiana's voluntary attorney panel program, along with the roles and responsibilities of attorneys. The course will include relevant considerations from the Indiana ethics rules including competence to handle representations with unfamiliar subject matter (1.1), scope of representation and allocation of decision-making authority (1.2), and reasonable fee agreements (1.5). Program speakers will include the Hon. Mario Garcia, Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Indiana, along with Libby R. Roberts and Craig W. Wiley, two attorneys with extensive experience working as recruited counsel for the Southern District of Indiana. Opening remarks will be given by Chief Judge Tanya Walton Pratt.

Attendance for this event is limited to practicing attorneys in the State of Indiana. Registration is required and space is limited to the first sixteen people to RSVP. There is no cost to attend and 1 hour of Continuing Legal Education (general) credit and .5 hours of ethics credit are pending approval. Please RSVP by email to [INSD\\_CLE@insd.uscourts.gov](mailto:INSD_CLE@insd.uscourts.gov).