

United States District Court
District of New Mexico
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Pete V. Domenici United States Courthouse



Matthew J. Dykman
Clerk of Court

333 Lomas Blvd. N.W. - Suite 270
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102
(505) 348-2000 - Fax (505) 348-2028

Divisional Offices
106 South Federal Place
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 988-6481
Fax (505) 988-6473

100 North Church Street
Las Cruces, NM 88001
(575) 528-1400

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STEVEN C. YARBROUGH APPOINTED UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - The United States District Court for the District of New Mexico announced the appointment, effective May 7, 2014, of Steven C. Yarbrough as the District's newest United States Magistrate Judge. The appointment will fill a position vacated at the retirement of the Honorable Lorenzo F. Garcia on January 3, 2014. The appointment is for an 8-year term.

Judge Yarbrough is a graduate of Stanford University and the University of New Mexico School of Law. He served as law clerk to the Honorable Bruce D. Black, U.S. District Judge for the District of New Mexico from January 1995 to March 1997. From May 1997 to May 1998, Judge Yarbrough was an Assistant United States Attorney, as a federal prosecutor at the Las Cruces office of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Mexico, primarily prosecuting immigration and drug cases. From May 1998 to June 2000, Judge Yarbrough was an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Arizona. He returned to the District of New Mexico, Albuquerque Office in June 2000, prosecuting a broad range of cases including racketeering, murder, economic and environmental crime, and public corruption. In January 2008, Judge Yarbrough became First Assistant United States Attorney for the District of New Mexico and served as such until August 2013, when he became Acting United States Attorney for the District of New Mexico. He also serves on the U.S. Attorney General's Advisory Committee's Native American Issues Subcommittee.

Judge Yarbrough was selected from a pool of applicants for the Magistrate Judge position. A Magistrate Merit Selection Panel, consisting of attorneys and lay persons from around the state, reviewed applications, interviewed candidates, and reported their recommendations to the district's United States District Judges, who then made the final determination. A formal investiture ceremony for Judge Yarbrough will be announced at a later date.

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