

PUBLIC NOTICE CONCERNING
REAPPOINTMENT OF PART-TIME UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

The current term of office for incumbent part-time United States Magistrate Judge, Robert W. Ionta, will expire on February 10, 2005. The United States District Court is required by law to establish a panel of citizens to consider the reappointment of Magistrate Judge Ionta to a new four year term.

The duties of Magistrate Judge Ionta are defined in 28 U.S.C. § 636(a) and involve the trial of federal petty and minor offenses as per 18 U.S.C. § 3401; imposition of conditions of release under 18 U.S.C. § 3146; conducting arraignments and non-guilty pleas; upon designation, conducting hearings and submitting to the judges proposed findings of fact and recommendations for dispositive motions or prisoner petitions; and, performing such other duties as conferred or imposed by law or by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and/or the Rules of the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico.

The public is invited to submit comments as to whether the reappointment of Magistrate Judge Ionta to a new term of office should be considered. All comments will be kept confidential and should be submitted to the personal attention of the undersigned not later than September 3, 2004.

Mr. William B. Keleher, Chairman
United States Magistrate Merit Selection Panel
P. O. Drawer AA
Albuquerque, NM 87103