



United States District Court
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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Judge Laura K. McNally Sworn in as U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois

CHICAGO, Ill.- Today in a private ceremony, Chief Judge Virginia M. Kendall swore in Laura K. McNally as the newest United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

“We are so pleased to welcome Judge McNally to our talented Magistrate Judge Bench. She brings extensive litigation experience in complex commercial and federal criminal matters and a career-long dedication to pro bono service,” said Chief Judge Kendall.

Just prior to joining the bench and since 2015, Judge McNally served as a litigation partner at Loeb & Loeb LLP, where she was a trial lawyer for complex commercial and criminal matters. In addition, Ms. McNally chaired the firm’s Chicago Pro Bono Committee. She was awarded the Northern District of Illinois’ Award for Excellence in Pro Bono Award Service in 2021, 2022, and 2023. Prior to joining Loeb & Loeb LLP, Judge McNally worked as a partner with Grippo & Elden LLC and as an associate with Arnold & Porter in their Washington D.C. office. Judge McNally previously served as Law Clerk to the Honorable F. A. Little, Jr. of the Western District of Louisiana. Judge McNally earned her undergraduate degree from Northwestern University in 1991 and her law degree from Tulane Law School in 1994.

Magistrate judges perform a variety of duties for the court, including conducting preliminary proceedings in federal criminal cases and the trial and disposition of federal misdemeanor cases upon consent of the litigants. They conduct various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings upon referral from a district judge of the court and the trial and disposition of federal civil cases upon consent of the litigants.

Magistrate Judge McNally will preside in Chicago. Judge McNally’s Courtroom is Courtroom 2230, and her chambers is in 2240 Dirksen U.S. Courthouse. A public swearing-in ceremony will be held at a future date.

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