

**United States District Court  
Northern District of Indiana**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Judges of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana announce that they have selected Michael G. Gotsch, Sr. to serve as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Court in the South Bend Division. Mr. Gotsch will succeed the Honorable Christopher A. Nuechterlein upon his retirement.

Gotsch was among 29 people who applied for the judgeship. A panel of lawyers and non-lawyers reviewed the applications and recommended five (5) finalists for the position. The judges on the court interviewed the finalists and selected Gotsch.

Chief Judge Philip P. Simon said that Gotsch “has served as a judge for the State of Indiana for nearly 12 years and has demonstrated the demeanor, intellect, and practical approach to problem solving that will make him an outstanding magistrate judge.” Simon noted Gotsch was chosen from a group of highly qualified applicants and commended the Magistrate Judge Selection Panel “for having done an exceptional job of screening the applicants.” Simon said the judges of the Northern District of Indiana “look forward to welcoming Michael G. Gotsch as a United States magistrate judge on our court.”

A magistrate judge’s duties include conducting most preliminary proceedings in criminal cases and presiding over hearings and the trial in civil cases and misdemeanor cases with the consent of all parties. At the request of district judges, magistrate judges also handle pretrial motions and attempts to resolve civil cases short of trial.

Gotsch is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, St. John’s University in New York, and the University of Notre Dame Law School. He currently serves as a Circuit Court Judge in St. Joseph County, Indiana, and has held this position since 2004. He handles preliminary and dispositional proceedings as well as bench and jury trials. He is also responsible for managerial and budgetary oversight of the public defender, adult probation, domestic relations, and community corrections department. Mr. Gotsch served as an officer in the United States Army for four years and was honorably discharged at the rank of Captain prior to enrolling in law school.

Mr. Gotsch will assume office August 12, 2016.