

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA
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CHAMBERS OF
JOHN A. JARVEY
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December 28, 2020

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa is pleased to announce the selection of a new United States Magistrate Judge. On December 21, 2020 the Court selected attorney Stephen Locher for this position. Mr. Locher is a partner in the Belin McCormick, P.C. law firm in Des Moines, Iowa. Following his graduation from Harvard Law School, Mr. Locher served as a law clerk to the Honorable John R. Gibson with the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. He was in private practice in Chicago and then served for five years in the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Iowa. He has been with Belin McCormick since 2013.

The process of becoming a United States Magistrate Judge is rigorous. By statute, the Court formed a merit selection panel consisting of prominent attorneys and lay people from the Southern District of Iowa. The merit selection panel interviewed candidates and selected five persons to submit to the Court for its consideration. After interviews of all five candidates by the magistrate judges and district judges of the district, Mr. Locher was selected.

Mr. Locher succeeds the Honorable Celeste Bremer upon her retirement scheduled for May 31, 2021. Magistrate Judge Bremer has served the Southern District of Iowa as a magistrate judge since 1985. Following her retirement, she will be recalled and plans to continue to serve the Court in a more limited capacity.