



United States District Court District of Minnesota

Patrick J. Schiltz, Chief Judge
Kate M. Fogarty, Clerk of Court
612-664-5080

Warren E. Burger
Federal Building and U.S.
Courthouse
316 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

Edward J. Devitt
U.S. Courthouse and
Federal Building
118 South Mill Street
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Gerald W. Heaney
Federal Building and U.S.
Courthouse and
Customhouse
515 West First Street
Duluth, MN 55802

Diana E. Murphy
U.S. Courthouse
300 South Fourth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55415

September 16, 2024

NEWS RELEASE

United States District Court, District of Minnesota Appointment of Shannon G. Elkins as Magistrate Judge

MINNEAPOLIS, MN – Shannon G. Elkins has been appointed as the newest Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota, filling the vacancy created when Judge Becky Thorson retired. Chief Judge Patrick J. Schiltz administered the oath of office to Judge Elkins on September 16, 2024.

Chief Judge Schiltz said, “All of us judges have long admired Judge Elkins for her skill as a litigator, her devotion to her clients, her civility to all those involved in the justice system, and her extraordinary work ethic and integrity. We are thrilled that she will now be serving the cause of justice as a magistrate judge.”

Judge Elkins received her undergraduate degree, *summa cum laude*, from the University of Minnesota. In 2003, she graduated with honors from the University of Minnesota Law School.

During law school, Judge Elkins gained valuable experience as a law clerk for the Hennepin County Public Defender's Office, the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota, and the ACLU of Minnesota. Upon graduating from law school, Judge Elkins became an Assistant Hennepin County Public Defender, working on the Adult Felony Trial Team.

Later, Judge Elkins moved into the private sector when she joined Hawkins Law Office and then formed Elkins Law Office. Judge Elkins began her federal practice when she was chosen to be a member of this District's Second Chair Program. In 2012, she left private practice to become an Assistant Federal Defender. As a Senior Assistant, she served in the District's Reentry Court. In September 2023, Judge Elkins was honored to be chosen and admitted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Judge Elkins will be chambered in the Warren E. Burger U.S. Courthouse and Federal Building in St. Paul.



Additional questions can be directed to Public Information Officer Rebekkah Parks at Rebekkah_Parks@mnd.uscourts.gov.

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