



DISTRICT OF MONTANA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



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Welcome United States Magistrate Judge John Johnston



The United States District Court for the District of Montana is pleased to welcome John Johnston of Butte, Montana, as our next United States Magistrate Judge in the Great Falls Division. Judge Johnston was selected from among a highly qualified group of finalists compiled by a court-appointed merit selection panel. Prior to his selection, Judge Johnston was a partner in the Butte law firm of Joyce, Johnston & MacDonald, PLLP.

Judge Johnston was born and raised in Butte, and graduated with honors from the University of Montana School of Law in 1988. He began his career with the law firm of Corette, Pohlman & Kebe, where he became a partner before joining his current firm. He is a member of both the Montana Trial Lawyers Association and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He and his wife Angie have four children.

Judge Johnston was sworn in on January 5th as the fifth magistrate judge to serve on a full-time basis in the Great Falls Division. The District of Montana has three full-time magistrate judge positions, located in Missoula, Billings, and Great Falls.

CRIMINAL ATTORNEYS: Tips on Requesting Transcripts

Completing and filing a Transcript Designation and Order Form (TD&O) and CJA 24 may be confusing when you want a transcript from one case for use in another. The forms must be filed in the case in which the proceeding you want transcribed was held. If you were not counsel of record in that case, you must file the TD&O and CJA 24 conventionally with the clerk's office.

For example, you represent defendant Bert and you want to use the transcript from the sentencing of Ernie (a defendant you do not represent) for use in Bert's suppression hearing. You would prepare the TD&O as usual, with the following exceptions:

Box 10. Case Name: Insert Ernie's name

Box 11. Case Number: Insert Ernie's case number

Box 14. Transcript Requested: Select sentencing, the date of Ernie's sentencing, and the court reporter who reported the sentencing

If you are CJA counsel and you need a CJA 24, things are even more confusing. Fill out the CJA 24 by inserting your client's information in all of the requisite boxes except Box 13. Using the Bert/Ernie example above, as counsel for Bert, you would complete the CJA 24 as follows:

Box 4. Case Number: Insert Bert's case number

Box 7. Case Name: USA v. Bert

Box 12. Proceeding in which transcript is to be used: Suppression Hearing

Proceeding to be Transcribed: April 12, 2014, sentencing of Ernie

The TD&O and CJA 24 should then be delivered to the clerk, who will file the forms in Ernie's case.

Clerk of Court Divisional Offices

Billings: 247-7000 Great Falls: 727-1922 Butte: 497-1279 Helena: 441-1355 Missoula: 542-7260

District of Montana Website: www.mtd.uscourts.gov

Questions about filing electronically? Call the CM/ECF Helpdesk: 866-463-4052

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