



NEWS RELEASE

United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee

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August 29, 2013

**Honorable J. Daniel Breen New Chief United States District Judge
For the Western District of Tennessee**

Effective, August 26, 2013 the Honorable J. Daniel Breen assumed the position of chief judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee. United States District Judge Jon P. McCalla elected to retire from active status and take senior status after serving as the chief judge January 1, 2008 -August 23, 2013.

Chief Judge Breen began his judiciary career in 1991 as a United States Magistrate Judge in the Western District of Tennessee serving in both the Eastern (Jackson) and Western (Memphis) divisional offices. Chief Judge Breen was nominated on January 7, 2003 by President George W. Bush to a seat on the district court bench. He was confirmed by the Senate on March 13, 2003 and he received his commission on March 14, 2003. Chief Judge Breen received his law degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law in 1975, and his Bachelor of Arts from Spring Hill College in 1972.

The position of chief judge is not one to which a judge is nominated or appointed (except for the Chief Justice of the United States); the position is based on seniority. The chief judge is the judge in regular active service who is senior in commission of those judges who are: (1) 64 years of age or under; (2) have served for one year or more as a judge; and (3) have not previously served as chief judge.