

**Current Vacancies in the Federal Judiciary – Jurisdictions with Active Patent Litigation Dockets  
113th Congress  
As of 9.26.13**

<b>Circuit/ District</b>	<b>Incumbent</b>	<b>Vacancy Reason</b>	<b>Vacancy Date</b>	<b>Nominee</b>	<b>Nomination Date</b>	<b>ABA Rating<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>SJC<sup>2</sup> Hearing Date</b>	<b>Date Reported by the SJC</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Fed. Circuit Court of Appeals	Michel, Paul R.	Retired	5/31/10	DuMont, Edward Carroll	4/14/10 <sup>3</sup> 1/5/11	Unanimously Well Qualified	2/29/12	3/29/12	DuMont withdrew from consideration on 11/09/2011, and Taranto was nominated on 11/10/2011
				Taranto, Richard	11/10/11 1/4/13	Unanimously Well Qualified	2/29/12	3/29/12	Confirmed 3/11/13
Fed. Circuit Court of Appeals	Linn, Richard	Senior	10/31/12	Chen, Raymond T.	2/7/13	Unanimously Well Qualified	4/24/13	5/16/13	Confirmed 8/1/13
Fed. Circuit Court of Appeals	Bryson, William C.	Senior	1/7/13	Hughes, Todd M.	2/7/13	Unanimously Qualified	6/19/13	7/18/13	Confirmed 9/24/13
C. D. Cal.	Fairbank, Valerie Baker	Senior	3/1/12	Beverly Reid O'Connell	11/14/12 1/4/13	Unanimously Well Qualified	12/12/12	2/14/13	Confirmed 4/15/13
N.D. Cal.	Breyer, Charles R.	Senior	12/31/11	Orrick, William H., III	6/12/12 1/4/13	Unanimously Well Qualified	7/11/12	3/28/13	Confirmed 5/15/13
N.D. Cal.	<b>POSITION OPEN</b>	<b>NEW POSITION: FJC Director</b>	10/3/11	Freeman, Beth Labson	6/20/13	Unanimously Qualified	9/11/13		
N.D. Cal.	Ware, James	Retired	8/31/12	Donato, James	6/20/13	Substantial Majority Well Qualified; Minority Qualified	9/11/13		

<sup>1</sup> The American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary (the "Committee") provides an evaluation of the integrity, professional competence and judicial temperament of judicial nominees. Where the Committee arrives at a unanimous decision, ratings appear as a single rating. In other situations, the rating from the majority of the Committee is recorded first, followed by the rating(s) of a minority of the Committee. In all circumstances, the majority rating is the official rating of the Committee.

<sup>2</sup> "SJC" refers to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

<sup>3</sup> DuMont was originally nominated in April 2010, but the Senate returned his nomination to the President in December 2010. The President re-nominated DuMont and sent his nomination back to the Senate in January 2011.

Circuit/ District	Incumbent	Vacancy Reason	Vacancy Date	Nominee	Nomination Date	ABA Rating <sup>4</sup>	SJC <sup>5</sup> Hearing Date	Date Reported by the SJC	Comments
N.D. Cal.	Illston, Susan Yvonne	Senior	7/1/13	Chhabria, Vince Girdhari	7/25/13	Unanimously Well Qualified	9/25/13		
N.D. Ill.	Hibbler, William J.	Deceased	3/19/12	Wood, Andrea R.	5/6/13	Majority Qualified; Minority Not Qualified	6/19/13	7/18/13	
N.D. Ill.	Gottschall, Joan B.	Senior	4/23/12	Ellis, Sara Lee	5/6/13	Substantial Majority Qualified; Minority Not Qualified	6/19/13	7/18/13	
N.D. Ill.	Lefkow, Joan Humphrey	Senior	9/1/12	Shah, Manish S.	9/20/13	Substantial Majority Well Qualified; Minority Qualified			
S.D. NY	Jones, Barbara S.	Retired	12/31/12	Woods, Gregory Howard	5/9/13	Majority Qualified, Minority Well Qualified	7/10/13	8/1/13	
E.D. Tex.	Ward, T. John	Retired	10/1/11	<b>NONE</b> <sup>6</sup>					
E.D. Tex.	Folsom, David	Retired	3/17/12	<b>NONE</b>					

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<sup>5</sup> "SJC" refers to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

<sup>6</sup> While Judge James Rodney Gilstrap, who was confirmed in December 2011, technically filled the seat formerly occupied by Judge Heartfield, Judge Gilstrap sits in Marshall, Texas and presides over the docket previously presided over by Judge Ward. U.S. Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn have made three recommendations for the remaining vacant seats in the Eastern District of Texas: Judge Jim Fallon (15th District Court in Grayson County, Texas), Judge Martin Hoffman (68th District Court in Dallas, Texas) and Mr. Clyde Siebman (Senior Partner at Siebman, Reynolds, Burg, Phillips & Smith)