

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

RE: APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. RYAN, JUDGE OF THE TWENTY-FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, TO THE MASS LITIGATION PANEL

Pursuant to Rule 26.02 of the West Virginia Trial Court Rules, the Chief Justice, with the approval of the Supreme Court of Appeals, shall appoint seven (7) active or senior status circuit court judges to serve on the Mass Litigation Panel ("Panel"). "Each appointment is for a term of three (3) years, with two (2) judges to be appointed each year; provided, however, that beginning in 2009 and in every third year thereafter, three (3) judges shall be appointed. There is no prohibition against serving successive terms." *Id.* Further, "[t]he Chief Justice shall annually designate a Panel member to serve as its Chair to preside over the activities of the Panel and to report to the Supreme Court of Appeals." *Id.* There are currently two vacancies on the Panel.


The Court has approved the Honorable Robert E. Ryan, Judge of the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit, to serve as a member of the Panel from the date of this Order through June 30, 2026. The other vacancy will be filled in due time.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Honorable Robert E. Ryan is appointed to serve on the Panel from the date of this Order through June 30, 2026, under the provisions of Rule 26.

IT IS THEREFORE ACKNOWLEDGED that the current Panel members and the expiration dates of their terms shall now be as follows:

The Honorable Gregory L. Howard, Jr. (Chair) Judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit	June 30, 2024
The Honorable Jay M. Hoke Judge of the Twenty-Fifth Judicial Circuit	June 30, 2024
The Honorable Jack Alsop Judge of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit	June 30, 2024
The Honorable Derek C. Swope Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit	June 30, 2025
The Honorable Jason A. Wharton Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit	June 30, 2026
The Honorable Robert E. Ryan Judge of the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit	June 30, 2026

ENTERED: NOVEMBER 22, 2023


ELIZABETH D. WALKER
Chief Justice