

U.S. Magistrate Judge James E. Gates

James E. Gates of Raleigh took office as a Magistrate Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina in January 2006. He came to the court from a mid-sized Raleigh-based law firm, where he practiced business litigation for twenty years and served on the firm's management committee. His previous work included private practice in the District of Columbia and service as a law clerk (1983-85) to U.S. District Judge Frank W. Bullock, Jr. (ret.) of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina. Judge Gates is a former chair of the Dispute Resolution Section of the N.C. Bar Association (1998-99) and served on numerous other bar committees. He is also a former North Carolina-certified mediator. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Ursinus College (B.A. *summa cum laude*, 1977), he obtained his law degree (1981) and a master's degree in foreign service (1985) from Georgetown University. Judge Gates is one of two judges leading the court's HOPE reentry program for offenders with substance abuse problems, chairs the court's Civil Rules Committee, and has been a member of other court committees. He is the principal author of the five-volume *North Carolina Civil Trial Guide* (Matthew Bender) and has co-taught a class on federal practice and procedure at Campbell University School of Law. In April 2020, Judge Gates retired from full-time service, but continues to serve in a part-time, recall capacity.