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US

Six Secretive Federal Immigration Judges Make Up To \$167K On The Taxpayer Dime

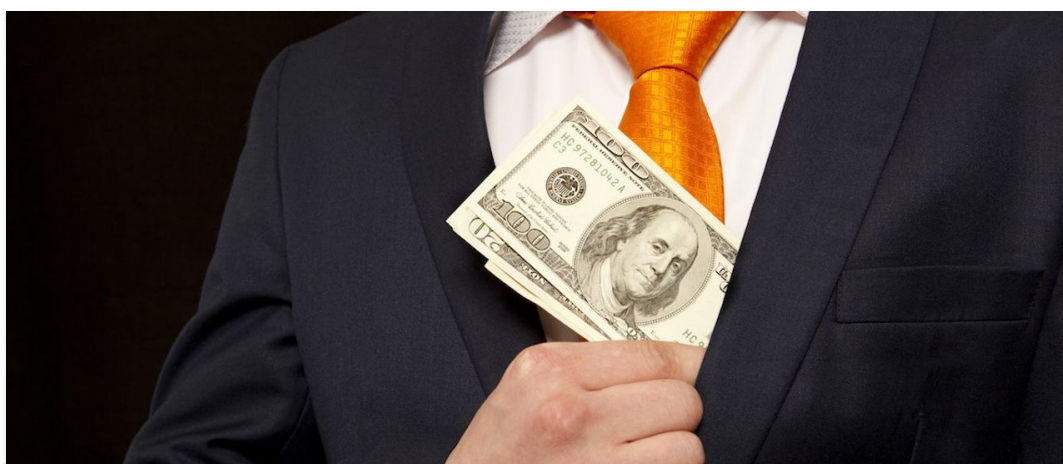


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NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPORTER

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The obscure federal court overseeing immigration dockets in Boston has six judges **earning six-figure salaries**.

The **Boston Immigration Court** operates under the authority of the **Office of the Chief Immigration Judge** (OCIJ) and the **Executive Office for Immigration Review** (EOIR) of the Department of Justice (DOJ). Judges on the six-member panel court make between \$137,000 and \$167,000.

Judges on the Boston-based court are chosen by the U.S. Attorney General. Would-be judges under consideration for a coveted job with the court “face a rigorous screening process comparable to that of the appointment of a U.S. attorney,” EOIR spokeswoman Kathryn Mattingly told the Boston Herald.

“To adjudicate immigration cases by fairly, expeditiously, and uniformly interpreting and administering the Nation’s immigration laws,” is the EOIR primary mission, according to its own website. The EOIR is specifically tasked with conducting “immigration court proceedings, appellate reviews, and administrative hearings.”

The court is highly secretive about its day-to-day business. Cameras are not permitted in the courtroom, according to the Boston Herald, and neither the judges’ rulings nor the recordings of hearings are publicly available.

Boston is contending with a great deal of crime being due to the **notorious Salvadoran street gang MS-13**, which has many of its **members** living illegally in the U.S.

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