John D. Early was appointed as a Magistrate Judge in 2017. Prior to his appointment, Judge Early was a sole practitioner in Orange County, representing clients in civil litigation and government investigations. Before founding his own firm, Judge Early was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Criminal Division for the U.S Attorney's Office in Los Angeles and Santa Ana. Prior to his appointment as a federal prosecutor, Judge Early was a litigator at Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP in Irvine and White & Case LLP in Los Angeles.

Judge Early received his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame and his law degree from the UCLA School of Law.