



# NEWS RELEASE

## Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

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March 18, 2003

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### **Judicial Conference Asks Congress to Create 57 New Judgeships**

The Judicial Conference of the United States today voted to ask Congress to create a total of 57 new federal judgeships—11 for the courts of appeals and 46 for the district courts.

Congress has not increased the ranks of federal appeals courts since 1990, a period in which those courts' caseloads have increased by 34 percent. The 34 district judgeships established since 1990 represent a 5 percent growth during a time in which the number of criminal and civil cases filed in the district courts increased by 33 percent.

The 11 court of appeals judgeships requested by the Conference include nine permanent and two temporary positions that would be created in four courts of appeals. The 46 district judgeships include 29 permanent and 17 temporary positions and would be located in 24 different district courts.

In addition, the Conference voted to request that Congress make permanent five temporary judgeships created in 1990. (A chart detailing the requested judgeships is attached.)

Acting on a presidential recommendation, the Conference also voted to strongly urge all judges to notify the President and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts as far in advance as possible of a change in their status, preferably a year before the contemplated change in status. This action clarifies and strengthens similar Conference policies adopted in March 1988 and September 1995.

Last October the White House proposed a series of reforms to the judicial nomination and confirmation process. One recommendation called for judges to announce their plans to leave active status at least a year in advance.

The Judicial Conference is the principal policy-making body for the federal court system. The Chief Justice serves as the presiding officer of the Conference, which is composed of the chief judges of the 13 courts of appeals, a district judge from each of the 12 geographic circuits, and the chief judge of the Court of International Trade. The Conference meets twice a year to consider administrative and policy issues affecting the court system, and to make recommendations to Congress concerning legislation involving the Judicial Branch. A list of the Conference members is attached.

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**JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES**  
**March 2003**

**Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, Presiding**

Chief Judge Michael Boudin Judge D. Brock Hornby	First Circuit District of Maine
Chief Judge John M. Walker, Jr. Chief Judge Frederick J. Scullin, Jr.	Second Circuit Northern District of New York
Chief Judge Edward R. Becker Chief Judge Sue L. Robinson	Third Circuit District of Delaware
Chief Judge William W. Wilkins Judge David C. Norton	Fourth Circuit District of South Carolina
Chief Judge Carolyn Dineen King Judge Martin L.C. Feldman	Fifth Circuit Eastern District of Louisiana
Chief Judge Boyce F. Martin, Jr. Chief Judge Lawrence P. Zatkoff	Sixth Circuit Eastern District of Michigan
Chief Judge Joel M. Flaum Chief Judge Marvin E. Aspen	Seventh Circuit Northern District of Illinois
Chief Judge David R. Hansen Chief Judge James M. Rosenbaum	Eighth Circuit District of Minnesota
Chief Judge Mary M. Schroeder Chief Judge David Alan Ezra	Ninth Circuit District of Hawaii
Chief Judge Deanell R. Tacha Chief Judge Frank Howell Seay	Tenth Circuit Eastern District of Oklahoma
Chief Judge J. L. Edmondson Judge J. Owen Forrester	Eleventh Circuit Northern District of Georgia
Chief Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg Chief Judge Thomas F. Hogan	District of Columbia Circuit District of Columbia
Chief Judge Haldane Robert Mayer	Federal Circuit
Chief Judge Gregory W. Carman	Court of International Trade

Conference Secretary:  
Leonidas Ralph Mecham, Director  
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

## Attachment A

ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS OR CONVERSION OF EXISTING JUDGESHIPS RECOMMENDED BY THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE			
2003			
CIRCUIT/DISTRICT	AUTHORIZED JUDGESHIPS*	JUDICIAL CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATION	ADJUSTED FILINGS/WEIGHTED FILINGS PER JUDGESHIP*
<b>U.S. COURTS OF APPEALS</b>		<b>9P, 2T</b>	
FIRST	6	1P	700
SECOND	13	2P	773
SIXTH	16	1P	583
NINTH	28	5P, 2T	870
<b>U.S. DISTRICT COURTS</b>		<b>29P, 17T, 5T/P</b>	
ALABAMA, NORTHERN	8	1P	567
ALABAMA, MIDDLE	3	1P	549
ARIZONA	13	3P	655
CALIFORNIA, NORTHERN	14	1P, 1T	513
CALIFORNIA, EASTERN	7	3P, T/P	692
CALIFORNIA, CENTRAL	28	1P, 2T	495
CALIFORNIA, SOUTHERN	13	2P, 3T	628
COLORADO	7	1T	511
FLORIDA, MIDDLE	15	2P, 1T	531
FLORIDA, SOUTHERN	18	4P	630
HAWAII	4	T/P	427
IDAHO	2	1T	554
ILLINOIS, NORTHERN	22	1T	491
INDIANA, NORTHERN	5	1T	518
INDIANA, SOUTHERN	5	1T	602
IOWA, NORTHERN	2	1T	562
KANSAS	6	T/P	424
MISSOURI, EASTERN	8	T/P	450
MISSOURI, WESTERN	6	1P	541
NEBRASKA	4	T/P	543
NEW MEXICO	7	2P, 1T	672
NEW YORK, EASTERN	15	3P, 1T	688
NEW YORK, WESTERN	4	1T	537
OREGON	6	1P	550
SOUTH CAROLINA	10	1P	544
UTAH	5	1T	521
VIRGINIA, EASTERN	11	2P	674
WASHINGTON, WESTERN	7	1P	682
P = PERMANENT			
T = TEMPORARY			
T/P = TEMPORARY MADE PERMANENT			

\* Includes judgeships authorized by P.L. 107-273, although the judgeships do not become effective until July 15, 2003.