



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE of PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

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Justice Eakin Succeeds Chief Justice Castille as Philadelphia Courts Liaison

HARRISBURG — The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania announced today that Justice J. Michael Eakin has been appointed to lead continued reform efforts that were begun by Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Ronald D. Castille in Philadelphia’s courts.

“Under the chief’s leadership, judges and staff in the First Judicial District have worked hard to achieve meaningful advances at all levels and in all functions of Philadelphia’s courts,” Justice Eakin said. “Thorny issues have been resolved, and recommendations have been made that will continue to be implemented. Our court is unanimous in its commitment to see to completion every needed reform.

“The beginning of this new year is an appropriate time for this transition to take effect. The chief justice’s day-to-day responsibilities are immense and include jurisprudential and administrative leadership of the entire Unified Judicial System. At no time in court history has any chief justice been burdened by so many statewide duties *and* the significant work that overseeing Philadelphia court reforms requires.”

“I have served as liaison justice to Philadelphia’s courts since 2007 and am proud of the accomplishments achieved there,” said Chief Justice Castille, “but every prudent organization plans for continuity in its management. Justice Eakin’s appointment helps to achieve that objective and allows me to continue to lead the Unified Judicial System as it faces numerous significant administrative and jurisprudential issues, including obtaining an adequate budget and other statewide reforms.”

Justice Eakin noted that he anticipated working closely with the chief justice, his colleagues on the Supreme Court and judges and staff in the First Judicial District. He plans to work hand in hand with them to continue the progress achieved by Chief Justice Castille.

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