



December 30, 2010

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PRESS ADVISORY

Long-Time Public Defender Service Attorney to be Sworn in as Superior Court Judge

- WHAT:** Investiture of Maribeth Raffinan
- WHEN:** **Friday, January 7th, 2011 at 4:00 pm**
- WHERE:** Third Floor Atrium, Moultrie Courthouse
500 Indiana Ave, NW
- WHO:** Chief Judge Lee F. Satterfield, presiding
Judge Todd Edelman will administer the oath of office

Biography: Ms. Raffinan was appointed by President Barack Obama on July 28, 2010 and confirmed by the Senate on September 30, 2010. She was born in Cincinnati, Ohio and was raised there and Clearwater, Florida. Ms. Raffinan graduated from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts in 1992.

Ms. Raffinan worked as a staff attorney with the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS) for eleven years until her confirmation by the Senate, also working as a supervising attorney from 2006 to 2010. In those capacities, she represented indigent clients charged with criminal offenses and supervised junior attorneys in criminal trial matters in the Superior Court for the District of Columbia.

During her tenure at PDS, in addition to her trial responsibilities, Ms. Raffinan also co-chaired the 2006 Deborah T. Creek Criminal Practice Institute, served on the Superior Court's Drug Court Committee, performed trainings for Criminal Justice Act panel attorneys, led trial practice groups and served as a rotating attorney with the Special Litigation Division.

Ms. Raffinan also worked as an adjunct professor in the spring semester of 2006 at her alma mater, The Columbus School of Law for the Catholic University of America, where she taught a clinical seminar on Client Interviewing, Counseling and Negotiating. Prior to that, she served as a teaching assistant at the law school with Federal Public Defender, Mr. Neil Jaffee, in a course on appellate advocacy. She was an instructor for the AFL/CIO Coordinating Committee Litigation Skills Training in 2007 and 2009 and served on the DC Bar Committee on Criminal Law and Individual Rights in 2010 prior to her nomination.

Ms. Raffinan is a member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association (APABA) and the Philippine American Bar Association (PABA). As a member of APABA, Ms. Raffinan served on a panel discussing career options for law school students, served on the Government Attorney Forum Committee and participated in the Mentor/Mentee Program.

From March 1996 to September 1999, Ms. Raffinan worked with the Federal Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. As a Research and Writing Specialist, Ms. Raffinan worked with both the trial division and the appellate division preparing cases for trial and assisting appellate attorneys with appellate briefs, petitions for certiorari and other research matters.

Ms. Raffinan attended law school at The Columbus School of Law for the Catholic University of America from September 1992 to May 1995. During her law school career, Ms. Raffinan volunteered and interned with various legal agencies in the District of Columbia including the District of Columbia Bar, Family Representation Task Force, the District of Columbia Office of Corporation Counsel, Intra-Family Offense Unit and the Superior Court for the District of Columbia.

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