N E W S   R E L E A S E

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Senate Confirms Arizona Justice Andrew D. Hurwitz to Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Senate today confirmed President Obama’s nomination of Justice Andrew D. Hurwitz of the Arizona Supreme Court, to serve as a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Confirmation came on a voice vote.

Justice Hurwitz was nominated on November 2, 2011, and was favorably reported out of Senate Judiciary Committee on March 1, 2012. He is expected to receive his judicial commission shortly and will fill a judgeship left vacant when Circuit Judge Mary M. Schroeder of Phoenix took senior status on December 31, 2011.

Justice Hurwitz, 64, was appointed to the Arizona Supreme Court by then-Gov. Janet Napolitano in 2003, and has served as vice chief justice of the court since 2009. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Justice Hurwitz engaged in private practice in Phoenix, Arizona. He was a partner at Osborn Maledon from 1995 to 2003. He was an associate from 1974 to 1980 then partner from 1983 to 1995 at the firm of Martori Meyer Hendricks & Victor, which later became Osborn Maledon. He also served as a judge pro tempore on the Arizona Court of Appeals, Division 1, in 1994, 1996 and 1998.

A native of New York, Justice Hurwitz received his A.B. in 1968 from Princeton University, where he graduated cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. He received his J.D. in 1972 from Yale University, where he was a note and comment editor on the school law review from 1971 to 1972, and served on the Board of Editors from 1969 to 1971. Following law school, he clerked for District Judge Jon O. Newman, U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut, in 1972; Senior Circuit Judge J. Joseph Smith, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, from 1972 to 1973; and Justice Potter Stewart, U.S. Supreme Court, from 1973 to 1974.

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Justice Hurwitz has been an adjunct professor of law at Arizona State University, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, since 2004, teaching ethics, civil procedure, federal courts, legislative process, and Supreme Court litigation. He was previously affiliated with the law school as a distinguished visitor from practice in 2001; a visiting professor of law, from 1994 to 1995; and an adjunct professor of law in 2002, 1988, and from 1977 to 1980.

Justice Hurwitz served on the Board of Directors of Children’s Action Alliance from 1999 to 2003, and as its secretary from 2002 to 2003. He has been a member of the American Law Institute since 2002 and a master of the Horace Rumpole Inn of Court since 1997.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears appeals of cases decided by executive branch agencies and federal trial courts in nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions. The court normally meets monthly in Seattle, Washington and in San Francisco and Pasadena, California; every other month in Portland, Oregon; three times per year in Honolulu, Hawaii; and twice a year in Anchorage, Alaska.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reported 12,141 new case filings in fiscal year 2011. The court is authorized 29 judgeships and currently has one vacancy.

Judges of the federal appellate courts and federal district courts, appointed under Article III of the Constitution, are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior. The current annual salary of a circuit judge is $184,500.

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