President Renominates Nine to Federal Trial Courts in the Ninth Circuit

SAN FRANCISCO – The White House announced today that President Obama has renominated 33 individuals to serve as judges of federal courts across the nation. The group includes nine nominees previously put forward to serve on federal trial courts in the Ninth Circuit.

Renominated to the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada were Clark County (Nevada) District Court Judge Elissa F. Cadish and Las Vegas attorneys Jennifer A. Dorsey and Andrew P. Gordon. Judge Cadish was first nominated in February 2012 and Gordon and Dorsey in September 2012. Only Gordon received a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee before the last Congress concluded.

Renominations were made to three U.S. district courts in California: Sacramento County Superior Court Judge Troy L. Nunley to the Eastern District of California; Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Beverly Reid O’Connell to the Central District of California; and San Francisco attorney William H. Orrick, III, to the Northern District of California. Orrick was nominated in June 2012 and was favorably reported to the full Senate in August 2012. Judge Nunley, who was nominated in June 2012, received his hearing in September and was favorably reported in December. Judge O’Connell, who was nominated in November, received a hearing in December but was not reported out of committee.

Renominated to the U.S. District Court for Arizona was Tucson attorney Rosemary Márquez, who was first nominated in June 2011 but did not receive a hearing during the congressional session. Renominated to the U.S. District Court for Oregon was Multnomah County (Oregon) Circuit Court Judge Michael J. McShane, who was nominated in September 2012 but had not received a hearing. Renominated to the U.S. District Court for Hawaii was federal prosecutor Derrick Kahala Watson, first nominated in November 2012, but had not received a hearing.

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Federal district court judges, appointed under Article III of the Constitution, are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior. Their current annual salary is $174,000.

A complete list of current judicial vacancies and nominees to federal courts of the Ninth Circuit can be found at: http://www.ce9.uscourts.gov/vacancies/Judicial_vacancies.pdf. For additional information about any of the nominees, contact David Madden, (415) 355-8930.

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