Senate Confirms Michael J. McShane for District of Oregon Judgeship

SAN FRANCISCO – The Senate today confirmed President Obama’s nomination of Multnomah County (Oregon) Circuit Court Judge Michael J. McShane to serve as a district judge for the United States District Court for the District of Oregon. Confirmation came by voice vote.

Judge McShane fills a judgeship vacant since September 24, 2011, when District Judge Michael R. Hogan of Eugene assumed senior status. He was originally nominated for the seat on September 19, 2012, but did not receive a confirmation vote by the Senate in the last session of Congress. President Obama renominated him on January 4, 2013.

Judge McShane, 52, has served on the Fourth Judicial District of Multnomah County Circuit Court, the largest circuit court in the state, since 2001. He has presided over a variety of jury and bench trials, specializing in complex civil litigation, including class action suits, medical negligence, contracts and general tort cases. Judge McShane has served on the state’s Death Penalty Panel since 2003, presiding over 25 capital cases. He was previously a circuit court judge pro tem in Multnomah County from 1997 to 2001.

Prior to coming onto the bench, Judge McShane served as an attorney with the Metropolitan Public Defender's Office in Portland, Oregon.

Judge McShane received a B.A. in English, magna cum laude, from Gonzaga University in 1983 and a J.D., with honors, from Northwestern School of Law, Lewis and Clark College, in 1988. He has been a member of the Oregon State Bar since 1988.

Judge McShane currently serves on the faculty of Lewis and Clark Law School, teaching trial advocacy and a criminal practice seminar. He taught at the New Judges’ Seminar through the Oregon Judicial Department, and he is a frequent CLE presenter on topics ranging from cross examination to search and seizure.
In addition to his involvement in the bar and academia, Judge McShane volunteers his time to many community organizations and schools serving at-risk youth. He is the recipient of the 2012 Oregon State Bar President's Public Service Award.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon had 2,974 new case filings in fiscal year 2012. The court is authorized six judgeships, all of which are currently filled.

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.

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