



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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NEWS RELEASE

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Senate Confirms Tiffany M. Cartwright for Federal Judgeship in Western District of Washington

SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Senate today voted 50-47 to confirm President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.’s, nomination of Tiffany M. Cartwright to serve as a U.S. district judge for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.

“We are very excited for Tiffany to join the bench. She comes with a great professional and personal background that will help the District. Her civil rights and employment litigation experience will be a great addition to the diverse experience of the current bench,” Western Washington District’s Chief Judge David G. Estudillo stated. “With Tiffany’s appointment, all district judge vacancies in the District have been filled resulting in a full turnover of the bench over the last two years. We thank Senators Murray and Cantwell and President Biden for filling these vacancies,” he said.

Cartwright was nominated for the judgeship on Jan. 19, 2022, and had her hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee on May 25, 2022. Her nomination was reported to the Senate floor on June 16, 2022. Her nomination was pending and thus was returned to the president when the Second Session of the 117th Congress adjourned on Jan. 3, 2023. Cartwright was renominated on Jan. 3, 2023, and her nomination was placed on the Senate Executive Calendar on February 2. Following her oath, she will fill a judgeship vacant since Jan. 1, 2020, when District Judge Benjamin H. Settle assumed senior status. Cartwright will maintain chambers in Tacoma.

Cartwright has been a partner at MacDonald Hoague & Bayless in Seattle since 2018 and an associate from 2014 to 2017. Prior to that, she was an associate at Jenner & Block LLP in Chicago from 2012 to 2014. Cartwright’s pro bono work while at MacDonald Hoague & Bayless included serving as pro bono local counsel from 2019 to 2021 to the Campaign Legal Center in [Aguilar v. Yakima County](#), a voting rights case protecting the rights of Latino residents of Yakima County to elect candidates of their choice. As a result, Yakima County adopted a new election system and redrew district boundaries.

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Born in Lansing, Michigan, Cartwright was a Haas Center for Public Service summer fellow in 2006 at Stanford University, where she received her Bachelor of Arts, with distinction and Phi Beta Kappa, in 2007. She received her Juris Doctor in 2010 from Stanford Law School, where she was also a public interest fellow and co-editor in chief of the Stanford Law & Policy Review.

Following law school, Cartwright clerked for Justice Dana Fabe of the Alaska Supreme Court. From 2011 to 2012, she was a law clerk for Circuit Judge Betty Binns Fletcher of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington had 3,234 new case filings in calendar year 2022. The court is authorized seven judgeships, all of which are currently filled.

Appointed under Article III of the U.S. Constitution, federal district court judges are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior.

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