



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Governor to dedicate new courtrooms For immediate release Wednesday, November 25, 2009

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Supreme Court Chief Justice Brent D. Benjamin and Governor Joe Manchin III will dedicate two new courtrooms in Mercer County at 11 a.m. on Monday, November 30.

The new courtrooms in the Mercer County Courthouse Annex are used by Circuit Judge Omar J. Aboulhosn and Family Court Judge Lisa K. Clark.

The dedication ceremony will occur in the Mercer County Courthouse courtroom of Judge William Sadler, with a reception to follow in the Annex across the street. Tours of the new courtrooms will be given during the reception. Justices Menis E. Ketchum and Thomas E. McHugh also plan to attend the ceremony.

The judges needed new courtrooms because they are both in new positions created by the Legislature to address the growing family court and circuit court caseloads in Mercer County.

“Mercer County greatly needed the addition of both judges,” said Supreme Court Administrative Director Steve Canterbury. “The Mercer County Commission and its Building Authority have done a wonderful job incorporating these new positions into their marvelous Annex. Appropriately appointed courtroom facilities are fundamental to providing justice for all.”

Governor Joe Manchin appointed Judge Aboulhosn on December 5, 2008, to the new third seat in the Ninth Judicial Circuit. The position was one of three new circuit judge seats created by Senate Bill 291, which passed during the 2008 regular legislative session.

Judge Clark was elected in November 2008 to a new seat in the Twelfth Family Court Circuit, a position which was created during the 2007 legislative session.

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