



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Chief Justice Davis appoints Senior Status Judge Stone to hear cases in Third Judicial Circuit For immediate release Tuesday, September 21, 2010

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Supreme Court Chief Justice Robin Jean Davis today appointed Senior Status Judge Robert B. Stone of Monongalia County to immediately begin presiding in all cases in the Third Judicial Circuit.

Judge Stone will hear cases in Doddridge, Pleasants, and Ritchie Counties until Governor Joe Manchin III names a permanent replacement for Circuit Judge Robert L. Holland, Jr., who died on Monday, September 20. The person the governor names will serve until the general election in 2012.

Judge Stone, 67, is a Republican who was appointed to the bench in 1985 after the death of Circuit Judge Frank DuPond in a car accident. He was subsequently elected and re-elected until he retired in 2008, after deciding not to run for another eight-year term. Before serving as a judge, he was a lawyer in private practice and a part-time assistant Monongalia County prosecutor. He is married and has six children.

Judge Holland's funeral will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 26, at Emmanuel United Methodist Church on Church Street in West Union. Interment will follow in the Masonic Memorial Park in West Union.

Visitation will be from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, September 25, at the Spurgeon Funeral Home, 212 Front St., West Union.

Judge Holland is survived by his wife, Kimberlee (Norris) Holland; his son Robert L. "Trey" Holland III; his daughter, Hunter Shea Holland; two sisters and one nephew.

He was a graduate of Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Virginia. He obtained a political science degree from West Virginia University in 1975 and a law degree from the WVU College of Law in 1981. He practiced law in Doddridge County from 1981 until his appointment to the Third Judicial Circuit bench in 1997.

He was a former president of West Union Bank, past member and vice-chairman of the Doddridge Republican Executive Committee, a member and board member of the West Union Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church in West Union.

He was involved in youth athletics and formed the Doddridge County youth soccer league.

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