



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
Michael L. Bender, Chief Justice
Gerald Marroney, State Court Administrator

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Judge Eyler named chief judge and Judge Schwartz named water court judge in the 10th Judicial District

DENVER – Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael L. Bender has appointed the Hon. Deborah Eyler as the new chief judge and the Hon. Larry Schwartz as the new water court judge in the 10th Judicial District (Pueblo County). The Chief Justice made the appointments to fill positions currently held by Chief Judge Dennis Maes, who will retire from the bench May 31, 2012.

The appointment of Judge Eyler to chief judge is effective June 1, 2012. The appointment of Judge Schwartz to water judge is effective immediately, but Chief Judge Maes will continue to serve as a water judge until his retirement.

“I would like to thank Chief Judge Maes for his long-term dedication in leading the 10th Judicial District,” Chief Justice Bender said. “His contributions have been vast and there is no doubt that he has made a positive, lasting impact in Pueblo County.”

Chief Justice Bender also expressed his enthusiasm for selecting Judges Eyler and Schwartz to their new positions.

“In the few years that Judges Eyler and Schwartz have been on the bench, they have shown great commitment to serving the people of Pueblo County,” Chief Justice Bender said. “I look forward to seeing them thrive in these new roles.”

Judge Deborah Eyler was appointed by Governor Ritter to the district court bench in August of 2008 and took the bench on December 1, 2008. Before being appointed to the bench she was in private practice. As a district court judge, Judge Eyler presides over a domestic relations, dependency and neglect and truancy docket. Judge Eyler is a native of Indiana and has

lived in Pueblo since 1983. She received her undergraduate degree in history in 1977 and her law degree in 1981, both from Creighton University.

Judge Schwartz was appointed to the bench by Governor Ritter on March 26, 2008, and began serving July 1, 2008. He began his law career as an Assistant District Attorney with the Pueblo County District Attorney's Office in November of 1982. From 1985 until his appointment to the bench, Judge Schwartz was in private practice. Judge Schwartz was primarily raised in Pueblo, Colorado. He graduated from Central High School in 1975. He received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of Southern Colorado (now CSU-Pueblo) in 1979. Judge Schwartz received his law degree from the University of Oklahoma in May of 1982.

Colorado is divided into 22 judicial districts, each with a chief judge who serves as the administrative head. Chief judges' responsibilities include appointing the district administrator, chief probation officer and clerks of the court; assisting in the personnel, financial and case-management duties of the district; seeing that the business of the courts is conducted efficiently and effectively; and making judicial assignments within the district.

Water judges are district judges appointed by the Supreme Court and have jurisdiction in the determination of water rights, the use and administration of water, and all other water matters within the jurisdiction of the water divisions.