



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
Michael L. Bender, Chief Justice
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Murphy appointed as 17th Judicial District Chief Judge

DENVER – Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael L. Bender has appointed District Judge Patrick T. Murphy as the new chief judge for the 17th Judicial District (Adams and Broomfield counties).

He replaces the retiring Chief Judge C. Vincent Phelps, who was appointed to the District Court bench in 1996, and named chief judge in July 2008. Judge Murphy's appointment is effective Jan. 31, 2014.

“For Judge Phelps, public service is a true calling, and I thank him for his dedication to the people of his district and Colorado, and for his excellent leadership,” Chief Justice Bender said. “I am confident that Judge Murphy has the ability to take over the position and keep the business of the 17th Judicial District's courts running smoothly and efficiently.”

Judge Murphy was appointed to the District Court bench in 2004 after 22 years in private practice, including starting the firm of Purvis, Gray and Murphy. From 1981 to 1986, he served as an assistant United States attorney, and before that, served in the Weld County and Boulder County district attorney offices.

Colorado is divided into 22 judicial districts, each with a chief judge. As chief judge, Murphy will serve as the administrative head of the 17th Judicial District. He will be responsible for appointing the district administrator, chief probation officer and clerks of the court; assisting in the personnel, financial and case-management duties of the district; and seeing that the business of the courts is conducted efficiently and effectively. Other responsibilities include judicial assignments within the district.

This information is provided as an e-mail service of the Colorado State Judicial Branch, Office of State Court Administrator, 1300 Broadway, Suite 1200, Denver, CO 80203. To discontinue this service or update your e-mail address, please respond to this message with your name, contact information and any comments.