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OWENS APPOINTS MICHAEL SCHIFERL OF LA JUNTA AS DISTRICT COURT JUDGE FOR 16TH J.D.

DENVER – Governor Bill Owens today appointed Michael Schiferl of La Junta as a district court judge in the 16th Judicial District serving Otero, Crowley and Bent Counties. Schiferl fills a vacancy created due to the appointment of the Honorable Robert Blackburn to the federal bench.

“Michael Schiferl brings more than 20 years of trial experience to the bench having worked both on civil and criminal cases,” said Owens. “His commitment to the rule of law will serve the citizens of the 16th judicial district well.”

Michael Schiferl serves as chief deputy district attorney for the 16th Judicial District. Prior to serving in the district attorney’s office, Schiferl was a partner in the law firm of Hernandez, Schiferl, and Martinez-Hernandez, where he specialized in criminal law. He also has expertise in civil law including landlord/tenant, real estate contracts, divorce and personal injury law.

As an active member of his community, Schiferl served as president of the 16th Judicial District Bar Association and as chair of the Pueblo Legal Services Board of Directors. Schiferl received his juris doctorate from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington.

The initial term of office for a district court judge is a provisional term of two years, after which the incumbent must stand for retention to serve an additional six years. The annual salary for this position is \$98,808.