

PRESS RELEASE

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Oakland Circuit Judge Mark Goldsmith Named as New Federal Bar Association President

Oakland County, MI (June 21, 2007) – The Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter, named the Honorable Mark A. Goldsmith as its new president for the 2007-2008 term, which began June 7. At his installation Judge Goldsmith stated:

The FBA has a vital role to play in promoting professionalism and civility, enhancing public understanding of the rule of law, and advancing the cause of a just society. That is a tall order to fill, but lawyers at their best have always sought to meet precisely those challenges. We are, in a very real sense, members of a healing profession, for we dress and redress the wounds – tangible, relational and financial – of the society in which we live. The lawyer's oath requires not only that we do no harm, but that we also do as much good as we can. The FBA provides us with a unique vehicle for accomplishing much good.

With over 850 members, the local chapter is recognized as one of the largest and most active FBA chapters in the country. Nationally, the organization boasts nearly 16,000 members, including some 1300 federal judges.

The FBA is a voluntary, professional organization for private and government lawyers and judges practicing and sitting in federal courts. Anchored within its mission statement are the following objectives: to promote professionalism, education, civility, ethics and fidelity to the rule of law; provide service to the federal bench and bar; and enhance public understanding of the importance of the rule of law and the roles of lawyers and the federal judiciary in promoting a just society. The local chapter will rely on Judge Goldsmith as its president to help fulfill this mission.

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Since becoming a member of the FBA, Judge Goldsmith has held key chapter positions, including vice president (2005), treasurer (2004) and secretary (2003). He has served as the pro bono co-chair since 1999.

Judge Goldsmith brings with him a wide range of legal experience and practical knowledge of the law. He was appointed to the Sixth Circuit Court in 2004 by Governor Granholm, where he currently serves as circuit judge for the civil/criminal division. A former litigation partner at the Detroit law firm of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn, Judge Goldsmith practiced law for over 23 years before his appointment to the bench. Judge Goldsmith is admitted to practice law in Michigan, New York, and Texas, and to the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, U.S. Court of Military Appeals, U.S. Air Force Court of Military Review, and numerous U.S. District Courts. He formerly served as magistrate of the 45-B District Court, acted as Special Counsel to the State Bar Committee on the Unauthorized Practice of Law, was a hearing panelist on the Attorney Discipline Board, and an Adjunct Instructor at Wayne State Law School. He is a participant in the Oakland County Bar Association's Inn of Court and a Fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation. A Detroit native, he received his bachelor degree from the University of Michigan and his law degree from Harvard Law School.

In addition, Judge Goldsmith has been devoted to serving the community, including leadership roles with Circle of Friends (teaching language and acculturation skills to immigrants), Forgotten Harvest (providing food to the needy) and Wayne State University's Center for the Study of Citizenship. He also is a past president of Congregation Beth Shalom.

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An electronic photograph of Judge Mark Goldsmith is available. For a copy, please contact Marcia Travis at travism@oakgov.com