

Judge Sanders named Fellow of Mississippi Bar Foundation

April 17, 2006

Fourth District Circuit Judge Betty W. Sanders of Greenwood was among 15 lawyers inducted Thursday, April 13, as Fellows of the Mississippi Bar Foundation.

Being named a Fellow of the Mississippi Bar Foundation is the highest honor given by the Foundation. Only 10 percent of the state's lawyers are eligible to be named as Fellows, Bar Foundation President-Elect Nina Tollison said before announcing the inductees at a dinner ceremony at the Old Capitol Inn in Jackson. The Fellow designation signifies peer recognition of professionalism, competence and leadership as well as dedication and service to the public and the legal profession.

Others inducted as Fellows Thursday include Mississippi Supreme Court Presiding Justice William L. Waller Jr. of Jackson, U.S. District Judge Louis Guirola Jr. of Gulfport, Mississippi College School of Law Professor Carol C. West of Jackson, Special Assistant Attorney General Leyser Q. Hayes of Jackson, and attorneys Lemuel G. Adams III of Brandon, David W. Baria of Bay St. Louis, Don Barrett of Lexington, Leigh Kennington Berry of Columbia, Stephen C. Edds of Jackson, John A. Ferrell of Booneville, Armin J. Moeller of Jackson, Marjorie T. O'Donnell of Oxford, William E. Ready Jr. of Meridian, and Karl R. Steinberger of Pascagoula.

Judge Sanders is the senior judge of the 4th Circuit Court District, which includes Leflore, Sunflower and Washington counties. She was elected Circuit Judge in 1994 and began hearing cases in 1995. She has been on the bench since 1989. She previously served as a special magistrate to hear cases filed by prisoners at the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman.

Judge Sanders is secretary-treasurer of the Conference of Circuit Judges. She currently serves on the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project Board of Directors and on the State Drug Court Advisory Committee. She has served as secretary of the Magnolia Bar Association and as a member of the Mississippi Commission on Judicial Performance, the Ethics Committee of the Mississippi Bar and the Bar Complaint Tribunal.

Judge Sanders has received special recognition from the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association, earned the Pro Bono Publico Award, was twice awarded the Service Award of the Magnolia Bar Association, and was the recipient of the Omega Psi Phi Community Service Award.

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