

# Circuit Judge Eddie Bowen takes oath

September 22, 2010

Eddie Bowen of Raleigh was sworn in Monday, Sept. 20, as Circuit Judge of the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Covington, Jasper, Simpson and Smith counties. Smith County Circuit Clerk Anthony Grayson administered the oath at the Courthouse in Raleigh.

Judge Bowen, 61, fills the vacancy created by the July 13 death of Circuit Judge Robert G. Evans of Raleigh. Gov. Haley Barbour announced the appointment of Judge Bowen on Sept. 13.

Judge Bowen said, "I appreciate the opportunity to be appointed to serve as a Circuit Court Judge for the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. I consider it a very high honor, and I will serve to the best of my ability."

Judge Bowen went to work Sept. 20. He will hold motions hearings Sept. 24 in Jasper County Circuit Court in Bay Springs. A term of court is already underway in Simpson County Circuit Court in Mendenhall.

Retired Circuit Judge Frank G. Vollar of Vicksburg had served as a special circuit judge by order of the Mississippi Supreme Court since July 1.

Bowen resigned as district attorney to take the judicial appointment. He had served as district attorney for 11 years. He was in private law practice in Raleigh for 19 years.

Serving as a judge has been his ambition since he earned his law degree 30 years ago, Judge Bowen said.

"I've been on the civil side. I've been on the criminals side, and now I'm in the middle," he said.

Judge Bowen earned a Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education from Mississippi State University and a law degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law.

He has 16 years of military service. He joined the Mississippi National Guard in 1967, and later served on active duty in the U.S. Army, then in the U.S. Army Reserve.

In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, hunting, playing guitar and motorcycling.

He is married to Sherrie Bowen. They have two adult sons, Jonas Bowen and Caleb Bowen, and one grandson, Gabriel Bowen.

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