

Investiture ceremony for Judge Ceola James set for Jan. 16

January 8, 2013

An investiture ceremony for Court of Appeals Judge Ceola James will be held at 2 p.m. Jan. 16 at the Gartin Justice Building, 450 High Street in Jackson.

The investiture will be webcast on the State of Mississippi Judiciary web site, www.courts.ms.gov.

Mississippi Supreme Court Chief Justice Bill Waller Jr. will administer the oath of office. The guest speaker will be Judge Felicia Toney Williams of Tallulah, La., who has served on that state's Second Circuit Court of Appeal since 1993.

Judge James was sworn in and began her duties on the Court of Appeals on Jan. 7. It is traditional to have a formal investiture ceremony at a later time.

Judge James was elected to a four-year term in a special election in November 2012. She was elected from Court of Appeals District 2, Place 2.

Judge James, a lifelong resident of Vicksburg, said that she will bring to the bench a wealth of experience as a solo practitioner who has practiced both civil and criminal law. Her previous judicial experience, as well as strong analytical skills and a desire to be fair to all people regardless of their station in life, have prepared her to serve on the appellate court.

Judge James previously served as Ninth District Chancery Judge from 1999 through 2002. She was appointed interim Warren County Justice Court judge in 1997, and served by appointment as a judicial special master in Warren County Chancery Court from 1992 to 1994.

She earned a law degree from Mississippi College School of Law, and was admitted to the practice of law in 1977.

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