FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Charles W. Welch, III, of Dover, Delaware was sworn in January 11, 2013, for his second term as a Judge for the Kent County Court of Common Pleas. He was reappointed by Governor Jack Markell.

Judge Welch was first appointed to the bench by the Governor Thomas R. Carper in 2000. At the time, Welch was serving as a member of the House of Representatives and had been elected to the leadership position of Majority Whip.

The Court is responsible for preliminary hearings, misdemeanor trials and civil cases where less than \$50,000 is in controversy. Its 11 judicial officers handle over 100,000 cases a year.

"Judge Welch has been an integral part of the Court, spearheading efforts establishing a Drug Court in Kent County and looking to establish the State's first DUI Court," said Court of Common Pleas Chief Judge Alex Smalls. "It is refreshing to have a Judge on the bench who takes the initiative to help litigants even though it means more work for him," said Dover Personal injury attorney Benjamin Schwartz, Esquire. "Judge Welch has targeted providing cost effective litigation options to parties involved in personal injury actions. He is hearing personal injury cases where medical records are introduced instead of live expert testimony. This option saves both parties involved in the litigation thousands of dollars in litigation expenses," Schwartz continued.

"I love my job and I love the people of Delaware. I have been blessed to have been able to serve them both as a State Representative and as a Judge," Welch said. "Being reappointed by Governor Markell also holds a special meaning for me. His father, Bill Markell mentored me when I was an accounting major at the University of Delaware. I still remember the day when he first introduced me to his son Jack."

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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