



## United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit

PRESS RELEASE

January 24, 2008

Chief Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg announced that he will relinquish his position as Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on February 10, 2008. Judge Ginsburg, who has been a member of the D.C. Circuit since 1986 and Chief Judge since 2001, will be succeeded as Chief Judge by Judge David B. Sentelle. Judge Ginsburg will continue as an active member of the Court of Appeals.

Taking over as Chief Judge just weeks before the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks, Judge Ginsburg spearheaded the development of the Court's Continuity of Operations Plan and security and emergency preparedness became a top priority during his tenure. During his stint as Chief he also oversaw the construction of the William B. Bryant, Jr. Annex and presided over both the groundbreaking and dedication ceremonies.

Chief Judge Ginsburg also continued the work of his predecessor, Chief Judge Harry T. Edwards, to foster collegial relations among the members of the D.C. Circuit and between the bench and bar, including reinstating attorney admissions ceremonies. On the national front, Chief Judge Ginsburg fostered the move to allow the citation of unpublished opinions, a practice now codified in the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

Judge David B. Sentelle, who will succeed Judge Ginsburg as Chief Judge, joined the D.C. Circuit in October 1987. Following law school, he practiced with the firm of Uzzell & DuMont until he became an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Charlotte, N.C. in 1970. From 1974 to 1977, he served as a North Carolina State District Judge but left the bench in 1977 to become a partner with the firm of Tucker, Hicks, Sentelle, Moon & Hodge. In 1985, Judge Sentelle joined the U.S. District Court, Western District of North Carolina, in Asheville, where he served until his appointment to the D.C. Circuit. Judge Sentelle served as the Presiding Judge of the Special Division for the Purpose of Appointing Independent Counsels (1992-2006). Judge Sentelle serves as President of the Edward Bennett Williams Inn of the American Inns of Court. He also is chair of the U.S. Judicial Conference's Judicial Security Committee.