



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: New Hires for 2008

MURPHY APPOINTS NEW ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

Four new lawyers have been appointed to serve as Assistant United States Attorneys (AUSAs) for the Eastern District of Michigan, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today. The newly appointed AUSAs are Matthew A. Roth, Joan Hartman, Joseph L. Falvey, Jr., and Eaton Paige Curtis.

Matthew A. Roth has served as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in this District since 2006 and has accordingly been working on our child pornography and child exploitation priority matters. Matt now joins our office as a permanent AUSA from the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office where he was an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney assigned to the Child Sexual Assault Unit. Matt also most recently served as a member of Prosecuting Attorney David Gorcyca's executive team. Matt received his law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in 1998 and his undergraduate degree from Indiana University. He will be assigned to the General Crimes Unit and will be trained, among other things, to work on significant Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property ("CHIP") matters arising in both the office's General Crimes and Economic Crimes Units.

Joan Hartman is already a longtime veteran of the Department of Justice. Joan served as a supervisor for the Fraud Section of the Commercial Litigation Branch of the Department's

Civil Division in Washington, D.C. for eleven years. During her time at Main Justice, Joan worked on numerous highly complex civil litigation matters involving, among other things, international issues such as defending our nation against Iran's claim that the United States violated the Algiers Accords by failing to release Iranian assets after the Iranian hostage crisis ended. Joan also pursued cases involving Iran-Contra funds in Switzerland along with bid rigging matters against Japanese companies overseas. Joan has been described by Justice Department insiders as "the nation's foremost authority on False Claims Act and qui tam legal issues." Joan, a 1983 graduate of Yale Law School, served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal. She will be assigned to the Affirmative Litigation Unit of the Civil Division, where she will make immediate contributions.

Joseph L. Falvey, Jr. joins the Civil Division's Asset Forfeiture Unit. Prior to accepting a position as an AUSA, Joe was a Professor of Law at the Ave Maria School of Law School, where he also served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Joe Falvey, however, is not solely a member of academia: he also has the distinction of serving as an Appellate Judge for the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals where he presides over cases involving court-martial criminal convictions. Prior to serving as a military judge, Joe worked his way through Marine Corps' Judge Advocate General's ("JAG") program, in which he tried more than 300 cases as both a prosecutor and a defense lawyer. Joe earned his law degree from the University of Notre Dame Law School, Cum Laude, in 1987 and he earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame as well. In addition, Joe obtained a Masters of Laws degree with high honors from the Judge Advocate General's School in 1991.

Eaton Paige Curtis will be assigned to the Criminal Division's General Crimes Unit. Eaton comes to the office from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office where she served as a Special Assignment prosecutor responsible for prosecution of felony matters, many involving witnesses under the age of 16. She has tried more than 100 cases to verdict. Prior to her work at Wayne County, Eaton worked for the Honorable Maura Corrigan, Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. Eaton Curtis is a 2003 graduate of William and Mary School of Law and she earned her undergraduate degree from Middlebury College in Vermont.

United States Attorney Murphy said, “Today’s announcement of these appointments marks our continuing commitment to developing a legacy as the finest United States Attorney’s office in the nation. Our hiring efforts serve to underscore my personal commitment to the development and shepherding of our office’s most important resources – our human resources. I am delighted to think that lawyers of this caliber would want to join the highly proficient staff of attorneys and legal professionals already on staff here in the Eastern District of Michigan.”

The United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Michigan, the fourteenth largest such office in America, prosecutes civil and criminal matters on behalf of the United States of America and its agencies in the 34 counties that make up the eastern half of the state. The office serves a population of more than 6.7 million Michigan residents and is comprised of approximately 100 Assistant United States Attorneys and a similar number of support staff. United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy was appointed by President Bush to his position on March 8, 2005, and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate three months later.

Inquiries or interview requests may be lodged with Public Information Officer Gina Balaya, 313.226.9758.