

# WASHINGTON LAW

BY BILL MYERS

*Examiner Staff Writer*



## In the courts

■ Several dozen D.C.-area judges have been ranked among the nation's elite by a California legal magazine.

Forty-two area judges, justices and mediators made Lawdragon's first-ever "Top 500" list. The list includes several Supreme Court justices.

Among the lower court judges are D.C. Superior Court Chief Judge Rufus G. King III and Superior Court Judge Herbert B. Dixon Jr.



King

Lawdragon, a quarterly review that rates judges and lawyers, sifted through some 20,000 names to compile the list, editor Tanya Vince Rothman said. The judges were nominated by lawyers and their fellow bench-warmers. They were rated for their fairness, depth of knowledge and handling of their courts, Vince Rothman said.



Dixon

Dixon said Lawdragon called him several months ago, looking for nominees.

"And the essence of my response was, 'Are you crazy?' Next thing I knew, they gave me a call and told me I was included in the list," Dixon said in a phone interview from Mississippi, where he is vacationing with his wife.

But looking over the list, Dixon said: "I like my company."

The Lawdragon list will be published next month. It will be available online at [www.lawdragon.com](http://www.lawdragon.com).

■ Juliet J. McKenna took her oath last week as the D.C. Superior Court's newest associate judge.

McKenna, 35, has been a magistrate judge since 2002 and was confirmed as a full associate judge in October. A graduate of Yale Law School and a former counsel to the nonprofit Lawyers for Children America, McKenna will be assigned to Family Court.

"I absolutely feel so fortunate. It's certainly going to be a lot of hard work ... but I just find it to be incredibly stimulating, very rewarding," she said.

## Honored

■ Law professor Edward G. Allen II has been awarded the Jerrold Scoutt Prize by the District of Columbia Bar Foundation.

The award recognizes legal aid lawyers and is given out annually. Allen, who teaches civil procedure at the University of the District of Columbia's David A. Clarke School of Law, also runs the school's Housing and Consumer Law Clinic.

## In the bar associations

■ D.C. Attorney General Robert J. Spagnoletti will be the guest speaker at the Federal Bar Association's "Distinguished Lawyer Luncheon" Jan. 12 at the U.S. District Courthouse, 333 Constitution Ave. NW, from noon to 1:15 p.m.

The luncheon costs \$15 for association members, \$18 for everyone else. For more information, e-mail [cdevorsetz@a-dlaw.com](mailto:cdevorsetz@a-dlaw.com).