September 13, 2002 Contact: Karen Redmond

## Chief Judge Carolyn Dineen King to Head **Judicial Conference Executive Committee**

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist has named Chief Judge Carolyn Dineen King of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals to succeed Chief Judge Charles H. Haden II, Southern District of West Virginia, as chairman of the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States. The appointment is effective October 1, 2002.

Chief Judge King has served as a member of the Judicial Conference since 1999, and as a member of the Conference Executive Committee since 2000. She served on the Conference Committee on Judicial Ethics from 1984 until 1991.

The Chief Justice, in announcing Chief Judge King's appointment, noted that her time on the Judicial Conference and her experience as a member of the Executive Committee "will ensure a smooth transition of this important responsibility."

The Executive Committee is the senior executive arm of the Judicial Conference of the United States, which is the policy-making body for the federal court system. The Conference meets twice yearly. In addition to other duties, the Executive Committee acts on behalf of the Conference between regular sessions on matters requiring emergency action.

Also serving on the seven-member Executive Committee are Third Circuit Court of Appeals Chief Judge Edward R. Becker; Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals Chief Judge Joel M. Flaum; District Court for the District of Columbia Chief Judge Thomas F. Hogan; District Court for the District of Maine Chief Judge D. Brock Hornby; Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Chief Judge Boyce F. Martin, Jr; and ex officio member Leonidas Ralph Mecham, Director of the Administrative Office.

The Chief Justice serves as the presiding officer of the Judicial Conference, which is composed of the chief judges of the 13 courts of appeals, a district judge from each of the 12 geographic circuits, and the chief judge of the Court of International Trade. The Conference considers administrative and policy issues affecting the court system and makes recommendations to Congress concerning legislation involving the Judicial Branch.

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