

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 15, 2006

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## **PRESS ADVISORY**

### **FORMER PROSECTUOR AND DEFENDER TO BE INSTALLED AS JUDGES**

**Mary Grace Rook and Elizabeth Carroll Wingo to become D.C. Superior Court Magistrate Judges**

**WHAT:** Installation Ceremony for Mary Grace Rook and Elizabeth Carroll Wingo

**WHERE:** Third-floor Atrium, Moultrie Courthouse  
500 Indiana Avenue, NW

**WHEN:** Friday, August 18, 2006 at 4:00 pm

**WHO:** Chief Judge Rufus T. King III  
Magistrate Judge-designate Mary Grace Riley Rook  
Magistrate Judge-designate Elizabeth Carroll Wingo

#### **Biographical information:**

**Mary Grace Rook** has served for the past five years as the Coordinator of the Juvenile Services Program (JSP) for the District of Columbia Public Defender Service. Within this capacity, Ms. Rook was responsible for training and supervising staff attorneys and law clerks at the Public Defender Services within the Oak Hill Youth Center and the Youth Services Center. Prior to her appointment as the JSP coordinator, Ms. Rook was a special education attorney in the civil division for the Public Defender Service. She assisted the juvenile trial attorneys whose clients had outstanding special education needs. In 2000, Ms. Rook was a planner and teacher at PDS' first special education training. Ms. Rook worked briefly as a social worker and kindergarten teacher, and also worked with Dalton and Dalton Law Firm on special education cases. She has previously worked as a Counsel for Child Abuse and Neglect. Ms. Rook was part of the team that developed the middle school truancy diversion program, which recently held its second graduation.

Ms. Rook received her Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from the Catholic University of America after which she pursued a Masters in Social Work at the University of Connecticut, where she specialized in clinical practice. She received her law degree from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law. Prior to receiving her undergraduate education, Ms. Rook spent two years at the University of the Philippines and worked as the director of a crisis intervention center at Clark Air Force Base. During her time there, she received a service award for civilian assistance as a result of her role in the 1975 Saigon airlift. Ms. Rook was born and raised in Paterson, New Jersey.

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**Elizabeth Carroll Wingo** was recently appointed Assistant Deputy of the Public Safety Division in the Office of the D.C. Attorney General. For the two years prior, Ms. Wingo was the Chief of the Criminal Section of that office, directly supervising a staff of approximately 20 trial attorneys and support staff. Prior to her work for the D.C. Attorney General, Ms. Wingo was an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Columbia, where she served in the Appellate, General Felony, Sex Offense/Domestic Violence and Homicide/Major Crimes Sections. Ms. Wingo tried over 50 bench and jury trials and argued several cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and the D.C. Court of Appeals. She has received a number of Special Achievement awards in different sections of the United States Attorney's Office. Following law school graduation, Ms. Wingo worked as an associate in the Washington office of Sullivan and Cromwell, and then clerked for the Honorable T.S. Ellis, III, in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office of the District of Columbia.

Ms. Wingo received Bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College *magna cum laude* and her law degree from Yale Law School where she served as Notes Editor of the *Yale Law Journal* and Co-Director of the Temporary Restraining Order Project. Prior to law school, Ms Wingo worked as a paralegal at Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering. She also joined the Jesuit Volunteers Corps where she served as volunteer coordinator for the Pediatric AIDS Program in New Orleans, supervising work with children infected by HIV, coordinated developmental activities amongst other tasks. Ms Wingo has volunteered since 2005 with the D.C. Rape Crisis Center Hotline, helping to counsel survivors of sexual assault. Ms. Wingo was born and raised in Washington, D.C.

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