

For release on 9/4/08

FEDERAL COURT APPOINTS NEW CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

Dwight T. Wharton has been appointed the new Chief Probation Officer for the Southern District of Indiana, effective immediately. Mr. Wharton grew up in Indianapolis and has worked in federal probation since 1991. He worked his way up from a probation clerk to probation officer, supervisor, and most recently, acting Chief Probation Officer, a position he assumed in April of this year. Mr. Wharton earned bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Indiana Wesleyan University. He graduated from Pike High School in Indianapolis. Mr. Wharton is also the first African American to serve as the Chief Probation Officer in this district.

Mr. Wharton's appointment was made by the U.S. District Judges of the Southern District of Indiana, said Chief Judge David F. Hamilton. "Dwight Wharton has been a superb public servant throughout his career," said Hamilton. "My colleagues and I are confident that his leadership will ensure the best possible public service from the Probation Office."

The United States Probation Office for the Southern District of Indiana has a staff of 44 working out of eight offices in Indianapolis and southern Indiana. The district currently supervises more than 600 convicted federal defendants who are on probation or supervised release after a prison term, and approximately 100 defendants who are awaiting trial in federal criminal prosecutions.

For further information, please contact Gayle-Sue Murphy, 317-229-3702.