

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
46 East Ohio Street, Suite 105
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Roger A. G. Sharpe, Clerk

Judge Doris L. Pryor Elevated to Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (December 6, 2022): Chief Judge Tanya Walton Pratt, on behalf of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, is proud to congratulate Judge Doris L. Pryor on her elevation to the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Judge Pryor was nominated by President Joseph Biden on May 25, 2022, and confirmed by the United States Senate on December 5, 2022. Judge Pryor is the first Black jurist from the state of Indiana to serve on the Seventh Circuit.

Judge Pryor was sworn in as a magistrate judge on March 1, 2018. During her four-and-a-half years on the Southern District of Indiana bench, Judge Pryor has superbly managed her civil cases, bringing many of them to resolution via settlement, expertly presided over criminal matters as the criminal duty magistrate judge, hosted and participated in multiple civic educational programs, and contributed to the court community in important ways, including as a founding member of the court's REACH (Re-Entry and Community Help) program, the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee, and the Wellness Committee.

Chief Judge Pratt said, "While we will miss Judge Pryor's service to the Southern District of Indiana, we couldn't be prouder of her elevation to the Seventh Circuit. Judge Pryor has proven herself to be an excellent judge during her time with us, and I am confident she will be an excellent circuit judge. My fellow judges and I congratulate Judge Pryor on her achievement and look forward to her thorough, thoughtful review of our cases."

Prior to her appointment as a magistrate judge, Judge Pryor served as the National Security Chief for the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Indiana from September 2014 until mid-February 2018. From August 2006 until her appointment as National Security Chief, she served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. From August 2005 through August 2006, Judge Pryor served as a Deputy Public Defender in the State of Arkansas Public Defender's Commission. She also served two terms as a law clerk, for Judge J. Leon Holmes in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas (August 2004-August 2005), and for Chief Judge Lavenski Smith of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (August 2003-August 2004).

Born in Hope, Arkansas, Judge Pryor graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1999 from the University of Central Arkansas, where she majored in political science. She obtained her law degree from the Indiana University Maurer School of Law in 2003 and was admitted to the bar the same year. Judge Pryor has since been admitted to practice in numerous state and federal courts, including Indiana.

While the Seventh Circuit is based in Chicago, Illinois, Judge Pryor will maintain her primary chambers in Indianapolis. She will travel to Chicago for oral arguments and other Seventh Circuit business.