Case 2:05-cv-08065-CLS-IMP Document 49

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2007 Sep-12 PM 01:40 U.S. DISTRICT COURT N.D OF ALABAMA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Northern District of Alabama Office of the Clerk Room 140, 1729 5th Avenue North Birmingham, Alabaraa 35203 (205) 278-1700

Sharon N Harris Clerk ·

William Anthony Fagnes

Plaintiff(s)

Case Number: 2:05-cv-8065-CLS-TMP (2:01-cr-414-CLS-TMP)

Derendant(s)

NOTICE OF REASSIGNMENT

The above-styled civil action has been reassigned to the Honorable Judge Karen O. Bowdre. Please use case number 2:05-cv-8065-KOB-TMP (2:01-cr-414-KOB-TMP) on all subsequent pleadings.

DATED: September 12, 2007

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U.S. District Judge Lynwood Smith retiring from active service, will continue 'substantial judicial duties' (updated)



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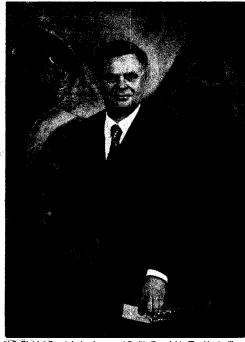
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(http://www.al.com/huntsville/) - U.S. District Judge Charles Lynwood Smith Jr., who has been on the federal bench since 1996, announced today he is retiring from active service Aug. 31 and moving to senior status.

Smith, 70, will continue to perform "substantial judicial duties."

He was nominated to the federal bench by President Bill Clinton in 1995 and his swearing-in occurred in January 1996. Smith's court has been based in Huntsville.

Smith served as a Madison County Circuit Judge from 1981 until he was nominated to the federal bench.

Smith received the American Bar Association's highest qualification rating after being selected by Clinton and was confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and the full U.S. Senate

http://blog.al.com/breaking/2013/08/us_district_judge_lynwood_smit.html

The judge sent a letter July 31 to President Barack Obama notifying him of his plans to step back from active service. The letter notes Smith met the requirements for federal judicial retirement three and a half years ago, but chose to stay in active service.

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Smith said today there was no Northern District judgeship in Huntsville for the first 80 years of the 20th Century. All of the judges were based in Birmingham and lived in Birmingham.

The man Smith succeeded, U.S. District Judge Bert Haltom of Florence, was the first federal judge to be based in Huntsville in the 20th century.

It is a tradition that has current judicial support.

Then-chief U.S. Appeals Court Judge Joel F. Dubina of the 11th Circuit, which includes Alabama, sent out a general order in February saying that when Judge Smith takes senior status, the new judge's home should be at or near Huntsville and the duty station will be the Huntsville Federal Courthouse.

Madison County presiding Circuit Judge Karen Hall said Smith's approach to the law brings credit to the judiciary.

"People have confidence in the judiciary and trust the legal system because of judges like Judge Lynwood Smith. I had the honor and privilege to work with Judge Smith when he served as a state court judge. His ethics, acumen and dedication while serving in that position gained him the confidence of the President and the respect of the bench, bar and citizens necessary to serve as a federal judge.

"His work ethic, character, and love of the law make Judge Lynwood Smith one of the most outstanding judges in this area of the country."

Smith said the decision to step back from a full caseload was not an easy one.

"It's been a difficult decision for me to make, in the sense don't have a lot of hobbies, all I've ever done is work," Smith said today. "I've spent my entire adult life, since graduating law school, in and around the law. It's what I enjoy, what I try to do well. I do not desire to quit, but I've reached the age where I want to pull the caseload back a bit and concentrate on some cases more than others. I still have a tremendous commitment to the Jefferson County (hiring discrimination) case (http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2012/12/jefferson county biring practi.html)."

McDaniel said Smith's dedication has marked his tenure on the bench.

"The thing about Lynwood Smith is that it doesn't matter if it's a case of national importance or involving a a homeless person, they're all important to him," McDaniel said.



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