



OFFICE OF THE SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ATTORNEY

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Rubin named to federal judicial selection panel

St. Louis County Attorney Mark Rubin has been selected by U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken to serve on a judicial selection committee to assist them in making recommendations to the President to fill two vacancies on Minnesota's federal district court.

The vacancies were created by Judge Donovan Frank's and Judge Ann Montgomery's recent decisions to assume senior status. Frank is a former Assistant St. Louis County Attorney. The senior status arrangement allows older judges to go into semiretirement while mentoring newer judges and helping to clear the court's cases.

This is the second time that Rubin has served on the federal judicial selection committee, which is co-chaired by Ann Huntrods, a partner at Briggs and Morgan, and Thomas Heffelfinger, former U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota and current partner at Best & Flanagan.

"Once again I feel honored to serve with an extraordinary group at the request of Senators Klobuchar and Franken to assist in the appointment of our next two Federal District Court judges," Rubin said. "This time it will be particularly meaningful as my friend Judge Donovan Frank and I started together in Virginia in the St. Louis County Attorney's Office in the late '70s."

In announcing the committee, Senator Klobuchar said: "This group of distinguished Minnesota leaders will help us identify jurists who will continue Minnesota's long tradition of federal judges with broad experience and unwavering commitment to the fair and just applications of the law. Federal judges have lifetime appointments, which is why it is critical that they are even-

handed, fair-minded, and dedicated to equal justice under law. In addition to these important traits, the committee will look for a person of integrity with a first-rate legal mind and a breadth of professional experience."

Other committee members are: Edward Toussaint, former chief judge of the Minnesota Court of Appeals now serving as a senior judge of the Court of Appeals; Lolita Ulloa, deputy Hennepin County Attorney and former head of victim services; Lisa Swenson, managing attorney for the Third Judicial District public defender's office; Yvonne Cheung Ho, former president and CEO of the Metropolitan Economic Development Association; and Vildan Teske, a founding partner of Teske, Micko, Katz, Kitzer & Rochel.

"The Senate has an important role to play in filling judicial vacancies, and I take that role very seriously," Senator Franken said. "I'm proud of Judge Montgomery and Judge Frank's years of distinguished service to Minnesota and our country. They leave some big shoes to fill, but I'm confident that the selection committee ... will find well-qualified Minnesotans who will apply the law fairly and equally for all. I'm looking forward to reviewing the committee's work and recommending nominees to the President who will serve the people of our state with honor and distinction."

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