



## Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

# News

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### **New E. Panhandle circuit judge to take office on Friday**

For immediate release Tuesday, December 11, 2012

CHARLES TOWN, W.Va. – Michael Douglas Lorensen will be sworn in as West Virginia’s newest circuit judge in a brief ceremony at 10 a.m. Friday, December 14, 2012, in the second floor courtroom of the Jefferson County Courthouse in Charles Town. He will begin work that day as a judge for the Twenty-Third Judicial Circuit (Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan Counties).

Chief Circuit Judge David H. Sanders will conduct the oath of office.

A public investiture ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. on January 10, 2013, at the Berkeley County Judicial Center in Martinsburg. Circuit Judge Christopher C. Wilkes will conduct the oath of office in that ceremony. A public ceremony also will be scheduled at a later date in Morgan County.

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin appointed Mr. Lorensen on November 16 to fill a vacancy created earlier this year when Judge Gina Groh was named to the federal bench in the Northern District of West Virginia.

Mr. Lorensen is a partner at Bowles Rice in Martinsburg. He was a reporter at *The Dominion Post* in Morgantown before he attended West Virginia University College of Law. He is a former Law Clerk to U.S. District Judge Charles Haden II and is a current member of the West Virginia Judicial Hearing Board. He is a former president and board member of the Shenandoah Community Health Center.

Mr. Lorensen lives in Martinsburg with his wife, Maria, and their children, William and Lauree.

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