



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Monongalia Circuit Judge named Bar Foundation Fellow

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CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Seventeenth Judicial Circuit (Monongalia County) Judge Russell M. Clawges, Jr., has been named a West Virginia Bar Foundation Fellow.

The West Virginia Bar Foundation, the philanthropic organization of the state legal profession, each year chooses lawyers and judges to become fellows whose “professional, public and private careers have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities and honorable service to the legal profession.”

This year’s group of 22 new fellows will be honored at a private dinner at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 25, at the Charleston Marriott Town Center.

Judge Clawges received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from West Virginia University in 1971 and a law degree from West Virginia University College of Law in 1974, graduating Order of the Coif.

He served four years in the JAG Department of the United States Air Force before practicing law at the firm of Furbee, Amos, Webb & Critchfield in Morgantown, where he was a partner. He also was an adjunct lecturer in trial advocacy at the West Virginia University College of Law for several years and currently is an adjunct lecturer in the Forensic and Investigative Sciences Program at West Virginia University and in the Trial Advocacy Program at the West Virginia University College of Law.

Judge Clawges was appointed to the bench by then-Governor Gaston Caperton on January 10, 1997. He was elected in 1998 and re-elected in 2000 and 2008. He served as Chief Judge from 2000 through 2011.

Judge Clawges is Chairman of the West Virginia Judicial Association’s Judicial Education Committee and Law Clerk Education Committee. He is an ASTAR Science and Technology Fellow and a frequent presenter at continuing education programs.

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