

U.S. DISTRICT COURT PRESS RELEASE

U.S. District Judge William S. Duffey, Jr. Announces Retirement

ATLANTA, Georgia -- January 18, 2018 -- Judge William S. Duffey, Jr. announced today that he will retire from his service as a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia on July 1, 2018. Judge Duffey's retirement marks the conclusion of almost 24 years of distinguished public service including service as an officer in the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps, as Deputy Independent Counsel in the Whitewater Investigation, as the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, culminating in his nomination by President George W. Bush to serve in his current position as a federal district judge. In addition to his federal service, Judge Duffey was an associate and partner on King & Spalding's special matters and commercial litigation teams.

While a United States District Judge, Judge Duffey held a variety of leadership positions and continued his engagement with the greater legal profession and community. Judge Duffey's judicial service included membership on the Eleventh Circuit Pattern Jury Instructions Committee and as President of the Eleventh Circuit District Judges Association. During visits over five years, he made presentations throughout Ukraine to members of the Ukrainian judicial and executive branches on judicial ethics and the importance of an independent judiciary in a democracy. In 2016, he was invited by the Department of State to represent the United States at a conference convened by Pope Francis at the Vatican, entitled "Judges' Summit on Human Trafficking and Organized Crime."

Judge Duffey regularly met with and mentored young lawyers from the minority bar associations in Atlanta. He served on the Georgia Supreme Court's Civil Justice Commission, and founded the Center for Young Adult Addiction and Recovery (CYAAR) at Kennesaw State University, a program to support the academic studies of young adults in recovery from addiction. Judge Duffey served as Chair of the CYAAR's Board of Trustees. He also served on and chaired the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Track Club, and was a member of the WABE Board of Directors. Judge Duffey focused his speaking on professionalism and co-edited, with Richard A. Schneider, a book entitled Life in the Law: Advice for Young Lawyers – a collection of reflections by prominent lawyers and judges around the country on the practice of law and the obligation of lawyers to the

profession. He currently is working on a book for young lawyers on practical aspects of litigation.

“It has been an unparalleled privilege to serve on our court with my colleagues. The decision to change professional focus was the result of a long and thoughtful process. My decision is rooted in my desire to have a more direct impact on people and to have greater reach in our profession, and in my community. My transition decision will enlarge my capacity to serve others.” Judge Duffey said.

Chief Judge Thomas W. Thrash, Jr., commenting on Judge Duffey’s decision, stated: “Bill Duffey’s retirement marks the conclusion of a truly stellar judicial career. Bill’s service as a United States District Judge, as with his many other positions of public service, reflect great credit not only on Bill, but also on the Federal Judiciary and our nation. During his distinguished service as a judge for the Northern District of Georgia, Judge Duffey has not only handled a tremendous number of cases, civil and criminal, but has expertly handled some of the most difficult and significant cases brought before our court. In this regard, his will be a lasting legacy. Aside from his cases, Bill has been an exceptional colleague who contributed to the collegiality and success of our court and all of its judges. While we will sorely miss having Bill as a colleague, he has more than earned this retirement and the opportunity to embark upon the next chapter in his life. We wish him the best of luck and look forward to seeing his next contribution.”

Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals Chief Judge Ed Carnes added: “On behalf of the entire Eleventh Circuit, I join Chief Judge Thrash in expressing our gratitude to Judge Duffey for his distinguished record of service to the circuit, the judiciary, and the Republic as a whole. He is an excellent judge, and we will miss him. I will especially miss him because he has always been ready, willing, and able to accept the special assignments that I have called upon him to handle. And he has carried them out with the same skill, dedication, and fairness with which he has handled all of his judicial duties. His has been an impressive career of public service. As judges we will miss him as a colleague, but as citizens we are grateful that he intends to continue to serve the public good in a new role.”

Judge Duffey is married to Betsy Byars Duffey, an author of children’s and adult fiction.