

News Advisory

From the Rhode Island Judiciary



Presiding Justice appoints new magistrate

March 16, 2012: Pawtucket Municipal and Housing Court Chief Judge John F. McBurney III has been appointed a magistrate in the Superior Court by Presiding Justice Alice B. Gibney.

The appointment requires the advice and consent of the Rhode Island Senate. If approved, McBurney would replace William J. McAtee, who retired in September 2011.

McBurney, 61, has been in private law practice for 33 years. He has been Chief Judge of the Pawtucket Municipal and Housing Courts for 8 years. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Rhode Island and his law degree from Suffolk University. He was a state senator from Pawtucket for 36 years, serving from 1975 to 2011.

“He has had a distinguished and successful career in the legal profession and in public service,” Presiding Justice Gibney said. “He has eight years of judicial experience and he is temperamentally suited for the magistrate’s position. I am familiar with his work ethic and look forward to having him as a colleague.”

McBurney is married and has seven children.

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