

## Court Information Release



### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

219 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET  
CHICAGO, IL 60604

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### **Court Welcomes United States District Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.**

The Judges of the District Court welcome United States District Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr. to the Northern District of Illinois. On November 13, 2007, Judge Dow's nomination was confirmed by unanimous vote of the United States Senate. From there, Judge Dow's nomination moved to the desk of President Bush, who signed Judge Dow's appointment papers on December 5, 2007. Judge Dow was then sworn-in by Chief Judge James F. Holderman in a private ceremony on December 6, 2007.

Judge Dow's public investiture ceremony is scheduled for Friday, January 11, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. The ceremony will be held in the James Benton Parsons Memorial Courtroom (2525) of the Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse located at 219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.\*

From 1993 to 1994, Judge Dow served as Law Clerk to The Honorable Joel M. Flaum of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Since 1995, Judge Dow has been employed at Mayer Brown, LLP, where he specialized in general and appellate litigation, with particular emphasis on telecommunications, state and federal constitutional law, jurisdiction, civil procedure, preemption, mass tort and products liability, admissibility of expert testimony, and class actions. Judge Dow has been acclaimed as a "superb" lawyer in the field of communications and technology law, as recognized by *Chambers USA's Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers*. In his spare time, Judge Dow serves as Secretary for the Committee of Selection for the Rhodes Scholarships, State of Illinois, and on the Development and Academic Committees of Joliet Catholic Academy. Judge Dow was himself named a Rhodes Scholar in 1990.

Judge Dow has had a distinguished academic career, with degrees from Yale University (B.A., 1987), University of Oxford (M. Phil. in International Relations, 1990; D. Phil. in International Relations, 1997), and Harvard Law School (J.D., 1993). While at Harvard Law School, in addition to graduating with honors, Judge Dow served as supervising editor of the *Harvard Journal on Legislation*, a member of the Editorial Board for the *Harvard Human Rights Journal*, and a Teaching Fellow at Harvard College.

Judge Dow fills a position that became vacant in the Eastern Division when then-Chief Judge Charles P. Kocoras assumed senior status in June 2006. Judge Kocoras was appointed to the federal bench in 1980 by President Jimmy Carter and served as Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois from July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2006.

**\* The investiture ceremony is open to the media and cameras will be permitted in the courtroom. Please note: camera stands will not be allowed, and the proceeding will not be delayed for late media arrivals. Also, no filming will be allowed outside of Courtroom 2525 above the lobby level.**