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Deval Patrick**


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For Immediate Release - December 18, 2012

**GOVERNOR PATRICK ANNOUNCES JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS TO THE APPEALS COURT AND THE SUPERIOR COURT**

BOSTON – Tuesday, December 18, 2012 – Governor Patrick today announced three judicial nominations: Superior Court Judge Geraldine S. Hines as an Associate Justice of the Appeals Court and experienced attorneys Brian A. Davis and Robert B. Gordon as Associate Justices of the Superior Court.

"I am honored to nominate these three extraordinary individuals to the appellate and trial courts," said Governor Patrick. "I am confident in their abilities and their commitment to the fair administration of justice, and I thank them for their willingness to serve."

Judge Geraldine S. Hines has served an Associate Justice of the Superior Court since 2001 and as the Regional Administrative Judge for Civil Business in Suffolk County since 2009. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she practiced law for 30 years in Boston, concentrating on criminal defense, civil rights litigation and social justice advocacy. She also taught trial advocacy at Northeastern University School of Law as an adjunct faculty member for 21 years. In 1989, she and retired Boston Municipal Court Judge Margaret Burnham formed the first law firm in New England of women of color. Prior to 1989, Hines maintained a community-based legal practice and also served as an attorney at the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, the Roxbury Defenders Committee and Harvard University's Center for Law and Education. Her extensive volunteer activity spans many decades and includes work for the American Civil Liberties Union and Lawyers Against Apartheid as well as civil and human rights activities in South Africa, Eritrea, Kuwait and Cuba. Hines is a graduate of Tougaloo College (B.A., 1968) and University of Wisconsin Law School (J.D., 1971). She resides in Roxbury. If confirmed, Hines will fill the vacancy on the Appeals Court created by the retirement of the Honorable James F. McHugh.

Brian A. Davis has spent his entire legal career in Boston at the firm of Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP, as an associate from 1985 to 1992 and as a partner since 1993. He specializes in litigation involving complex commercial disputes, torts, product liability defense, fraud and insurance litigation, and corporate governance matters, with significant experience in e-discovery. Davis served as chair of the firm's Litigation Department for four years and chair of the firm's Major Commercial Litigation Practice Group for five years. Since 2009, he has been co-chair of the Litigation Department. Davis is an active volunteer as a member of the board of directors of The Home for Little Wanderers, as well as a long-time member of the Massachusetts Bar Association's Committee on Professional Ethics. He is a graduate of Cornell University (B.A. cum laude, 1982) and Harvard Law School (J.D. cum laude, 1985). Davis is a resident of Walpole and an appointed member of the Walpole Personnel Board. He is slated to fill the seat on the Superior Court created by the retirement of the Honorable Thomas E. Connolly.

Robert B. Gordon began his career at Ropes & Gray, LLP in 1987 as an associate in the Litigation Group and the Labor and Employment Groups. He has been a partner since 1995, primarily representing employers in a wide variety of litigation matters. He also has an active practice advising business clients on non-competition and trade secret protection strategies and related disputes. Prior to joining the firm, Gordon served as a law clerk for the Honorable Bruce M. Selya at the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. He is a graduate of Wesleyan University (B.A. Phi Beta Kappa, 1983) and University of Michigan Law School (J.D. cum laude, 1986). Gordon resides in Wayland. If confirmed, he will fill the seat on the Superior Court created by the retirement of the Honorable John P. Connor, Jr.

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