

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 22, 2015**

**Vice Chancellor Donald F. Parsons Jr. to retire**

Vice Chancellor Donald F. Parsons Jr. has informed Gov. Jack Markell of his intention to step down from the Court of Chancery when his term expires in October 2015.

"It is a bittersweet occasion for me to advise you that I have decided not to seek reappointment when my term as Vice Chancellor expires on October 22 of this year," wrote Vice Chancellor Parsons in his letter dated June 15, 2015.

Vice Chancellor Parsons said while he loves the Court of Chancery and the many people he has worked with there, he believes it is the right time in his life for some change. "For twelve years, I have had the great privilege and honor of serving to the best of my ability both the citizens of the State and a large number of Delaware business entities. In the future I hope to find ways to continue serving our community and promoting the fair, impartial and efficient administration of justice," he wrote.

Vice Chancellor Parsons has not announced his specific plans following his retirement from the bench.

Chancellor Andre Bouchard issued the following statement on behalf of the Court of Chancery:

"All the members of the Court join me in congratulating Don on his retirement after an exemplary career in which he served the citizens of our State with outstanding intelligence, diligence and compassion. Don has been a great colleague and will be sorely missed by the entire staff of the Court of Chancery. We wish him and his wife Ethel all the best."

Delaware Supreme Court Chief Justice Leo E. Strine, Jr., who served with Vice Chancellor Parsons on the Court of Chancery, joined Chancellor Bouchard in wishing Vice Chancellor Parsons well and thanking him for his years of dedicated service:

"I was honored to serve for many years with Vice Chancellor Parsons. We owe Don a debt of gratitude for his deep concern for treating all litigants fairly, his commitment to making sure Delaware preserved its reputation as the best place to resolve business disputes, and his willingness to undertake whatever duties were required to help our Judiciary meet its duties to the people of Delaware. He is a special person and I shall miss him very much, although I expect we'll continue to call on his talents for many years to come."

Vice Chancellor Parsons was first appointed to the Court of Chancery on October 22, 2003 by Gov. Ruth Ann Minner.

The Vice Chancellor is a 1977 graduate of the Georgetown University Law Center and also received a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Lehigh University. Before joining the Court of Chancery, Vice Chancellor Parsons spent over 24 years at the firm of Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell in Wilmington,

Delaware, where he was a senior partner. While in private practice, he specialized in intellectual property litigation and participated in numerous jury and non-jury patent trials. Before joining Morris, Nichols in 1979, Vice Chancellor Parsons clerked for the Honorable James L. Latchum of the United States District Court for the District of Delaware. He is also a Past President of the Delaware State Bar Association and of the American College of Business Court Judges.

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