

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 18, 2022

Vice Chancellor Joseph R. Slight III Announces His Retirement

On January 6, 2022, the Honorable Joseph R. Slight III informed Governor John C. Carney, Jr. of his intent to retire from the position of Vice Chancellor of the Court of Chancery.

“Vice Chancellor Slight has proven to be a model judge and colleague during his time with the Court of Chancery. He will be sorely missed,” said Chancellor Kathaleen St. J. McCormick. “He is a seasoned trial judge known for his exemplary courtroom demeanor. A gifted and prolific writer, few could rival the breadth of cultural references embedded in his numerous decisions. The Vice Chancellor has proven to be a thought leader on a vast array of legal issues, writing many seminal opinions during his tenure on the bench.”

Having lost numerous loved ones over the past year, and after eighteen years of service to Delaware, Vice Chancellor Slight is retiring to focus on enjoying the gifts of good health and time with his family.

Vice Chancellor Slight joined the Court of Chancery on March 28, 2016. Prior to his appointment, the Vice Chancellor was a partner in the law firm Morris James LLP. Before that, he served a twelve-year term as a Judge on the Superior Court of Delaware, where he was instrumental in forming the Court’s Complex Commercial Litigation Division. Prior to his service in the judiciary, the Vice Chancellor worked as a litigator in the law firms Sidney Balick PA and Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A.

A Delaware native, Vice Chancellor Slight graduated from Dover High School before obtaining a B.S. in Political Science from James Madison University. He pursued his J.D. at Washington & Lee University School of Law, where he has had the honor of serving as an adjunct professor of law. He is a member of the American Law Institute, the American Bar Association, and the Delaware Bar Association. He is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and past President of the Richard S. Rodney Inn of Court.

In his January 6 letter to the Governor, Vice Chancellor Slight wrote: “The Court of Chancery, as an institution, is a Delaware crown jewel. . . . I cannot thank the citizens of Delaware enough . . . for entrusting me with the honor of doing my small part to ensure that the Court continues to thrive in its vital role as Delaware’s dedicated court of equity and the nation’s preeminent business court.”

To ensure an orderly transition, Vice Chancellor Slight graciously notified the Governor of his intent to retire long in advance of his end date on the court. Although his last day has not been selected, it is anticipated that he will officially retire during the second quarter of 2022.