

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Justice Tamika Montgomery-Reeves announces she will step down
in February to join the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals

The Honorable Tamika Montgomery-Reeves informed Governor John Carney this week that she will be stepping down from the Delaware Supreme Court in early February 2023 in order to accept her nomination by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. to the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

“It has been an extraordinary honor and privilege to serve the people of Delaware for the past seven years,” wrote Justice Montgomery-Reeves in her letter, delivered to the Governor on Dec. 15, 2022. “I also am incredibly fortunate to have spent this time working with dedicated judicial officers and staff who are committed to the rule of law and to treating all who come before them with dignity and respect. I have learned so much from them, and their service to Delaware has inspired me.... I look forward to continuing to serve the people of Delaware on the federal court.”

The U.S. Senate voted to confirm Justice Montgomery-Reeves to the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals on Dec. 12, 2022. Her departure from the Delaware Judiciary will coincide with President Biden signing her commission to the U.S. Third Circuit, which has not yet been set but is expected in early February.

“While we are saddened to lose a valued colleague on the Delaware Supreme Court, we are happy for her and for the Federal Judiciary,” said Delaware Chief Justice Collins J. Seitz, Jr. “The Third Circuit is gaining a judge of uncommon intellect and wisdom. I am particularly thankful for her work on the Delaware Judiciary’s strategic plan to improve the diversity of the Delaware Bench and Bar.”

Justice Montgomery Reeves was a trailblazer in the Delaware Judiciary. When she took office as a Vice Chancellor in Nov. 2015, after her appointment by Governor Jack Markell, she became the first Black woman (and the first Black person) to serve on the Delaware Court of Chancery. She again made history when she was elevated by Governor Carney to the Delaware Supreme Court in 2019, becoming the first Black person of any gender to serve on the state’s highest court. “I remain extremely grateful to you and former Governor Markell for entrusting me with that awesome responsibility,” wrote Justice Montgomery-Reeves.

Prior to her appointment, Justice Montgomery-Reeves was a partner in the Wilmington, Delaware, office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, focusing on corporate governance, navigation of corporate fiduciary duties, stockholder class action litigation, derivative litigation, and complex commercial litigation. Before that, Justice Montgomery-Reeves practiced in the securities and corporate governance department of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP in New York.

While in private practice, Justice Montgomery-Reeves served on a subcommittee of the Delaware Supreme Court’s Access to Justice Commission and on the Delaware Court of Chancery’s Rules Committee. She also received recognition for her contributions to pro bono service. In her

community, Justice Montgomery-Reeves serves as a member of the Delaware Community Foundation board of directors. Justice Montgomery-Reeves also served as a member of the Mother Teresa House, Inc., board of directors.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves graduated from the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College at the University of Mississippi in 2003. She received her law degree in 2006 from the University of Georgia School of Law. Justice Montgomery-Reeves served as a law clerk for Chancellor William B. Chandler of the Delaware Court of Chancery.