

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 8, 2013**

**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE SITS IN SPECIAL SESSION FOR THE
INVESTITURE OF THE HONORABLE ROBERT H. SURLES**

The Court of Common Pleas for the State of Delaware will sit in special session on Friday, February 8, 2013 at 2 p.m. in the New Castle County Courthouse's Courtroom 8B for the investiture of the Honorable Robert H. Surles. Judge Surles was appointed by Governor Jack A. Markell to replace retiring Judge Joseph F. Flickinger III.

Chief Judge Alex J. Smalls will preside over the special session. Speaking at the ceremony will be Lt. Governor Matthew P. Denn, Attorney General Joseph R. Biden III, and Major General Francis D. Vavala of the Delaware Army National Guard.

Judge Surles is the Military Judge for the Delaware Army National Guard and is a veteran of the Iraqi War. In addition to his military duties, he served as a Deputy Attorney General in the Delaware Department of Justice from 1990 to 2012. Judge Surles is a graduate of the University of Delaware with a Bachelors Degree in 1985; Duquesne University School of Law with a Juris Doctorate in 1990; the 53rd Military Judges Course Judge Advocate General's School in Charlottesville, VA in 2010 and the Judge Advocate's General Advanced Course in 2008.

Judge Surles will preside over cases in New Castle County.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
STEPHANIE FITZGERALD, COURT ADMINISTRATOR
AT 302-255-0864**