## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 2, 2022

## The Delaware Judiciary mourns the passing of Justice of the Peace Court Administrator Mark E. Hitch

The Delaware Judiciary was saddened to learn of the passing of Justice of the Peace Court Administrator Mark E. Hitch over the weekend.

Hitch had been battling cancer, and in recent weeks his colleagues at the court showed their support for his fight, and his sense of humor, by wearing gray "Fight like a Hitch" wristbands.

"No words can adequately convey the heartbreak I feel about Mark's passing," said Justice of the Peace Court Chief Magistrate Alan Davis. "Mark was more than a dedicated employee of this court; he was as loyal and devoted a person as you could find. Despite the time and energy he needed to fight cancer over the past year, he continued to make significant contributions to the court. In his entire career with the Justice of the Peace Court, he had a hand in countless outstanding improvements, but his crowning achievement was the personal relationships he forged and the caring, professional environment he fostered."

Hitch joined the Court in 2013 and served as Operations Manager for eight years before being promoted to Court Administrator in August 2021.

Prior to joining the Justice of the Peace Court, Hitch was a 24-year veteran of the New Castle County Police Department. Hitch began his career as a patrol officer in 1988 and worked his way up through the ranks to detective, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and ultimately departed the department as a major in 2012.

Hitch received his BA in criminal justice from the University of Delaware and received training at the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy in Quantico, VA and the JFK School of Government at Harvard University.