

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2024

**The Honorable Eliza M. Hirst takes the Oath of Office
as a Judge for the Family Court of the State of Delaware**

The Honorable Eliza M. Hirst was sworn in for her first term as a Judge of the Family Court of the State Delaware on Friday, June 21, 2024 in Courtroom 7E at the Leonard L. Williams Justice Center in Wilmington.

At the ceremony, Family Court Chief Judge Michael K. Newell welcomed the audience and administered the oath of office. Following the oath, Delaware First Lady Tracey Q. Carney offered remarks along with Family Court Judge Natalie Haskins and Dawn M. Williams Esq. from the Office of Defense Services.

Judge Hirst then addressed the crowd to express her appreciation before Chief Judge Newell concluded the ceremony.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Hirst served as an Assistant Public Defender and Post Disposition Unit Head at the Delaware Office of Defense Services. Judge Hirst is also an Adjunct Professor at Widener University's Delaware Law School and is a certified Child Welfare Law Specialist from the National Association of Counsel for Children and a certified "Child First" Forensic Child Interviewer. Prior to her work with Office of Defense Services, Judge Hirst worked as a Chief Strategy and Compliance Officer at Children & Families First from 2020 to 2021; as a Deputy Child Advocate at the Office of the Child Advocate from 2010 to 2020; and as a Staff Attorney for the Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. from 2003 to 2010. She received her Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Texas School of Law and her Bachelor of Arts from Oberlin College where she had a dual major in Politics and Law and Society. She also attended the London School of Economics.