

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2007

**DELAWARE SUPREME COURT AND DELAWARE CRIMINAL JUSTICE
COUNCIL CO-SPONSOR SUMMIT ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC FAIRNESS
IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**

The Supreme Court of Delaware and the Delaware Criminal Justice Council are co-sponsoring a two day Summit on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Criminal Justice System on September 17 and 18, 2007 at the Sheraton Hotel in Dover. This is the first statewide Summit of criminal justice and community leaders in the United States which will focus on strategies for improving racial and ethnic fairness in a state criminal and juvenile justice system. Chief Justice Myron T. Steele and Lt. Governor John Carney will open the conference with welcoming remarks. Featured speakers include District Attorney Joe Hynes of Kings County (Brooklyn), New York; Marc Mauer, Executive Director of The Sentencing Project; Dr. Pamela Casey and Madelyn Herman of the National Center for State Courts; the Honorable David B. Mitchell, Secretary of Delaware's Department of Safety and Homeland Security; and Wayne McKenzie, Esq., Chairman of the American Bar Association's Criminal Justice Section Committee on Race and Racism.

The goal of the Summit is to bring together key decision makers in the criminal justice system, state and local policymakers, and community leaders to identify and develop a consensus on strategies for improving racial and ethnic fairness, as well as the perception of fairness, in Delaware. Justice Henry duPont Ridgely of the Delaware Supreme Court and Chief Judge Alex J. Smalls of the Court of Common Pleas are the co-chairs of the Criminal Justice Council's Racial and Ethnic Fairness Committee which has planned for the Summit.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
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