

United States District Court
Southern District of Florida
May 19, 2004

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PRESS RELEASE

Chief United States District Judge William J. Zloch today announced the confirmation of Marcia G. Cooke by the United States Senate as a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida. Ms. Cooke will be sworn in upon the signing of her commission by the President of the United States.

Ms. Cooke, a native of Detroit, Michigan received her law degree from Wayne State University and is an experienced trial attorney. In her early career Ms. Cooke served as a legal services attorney and a public defender. She later served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of Michigan and in 1984 was appointed as United States Magistrate Judge in that District.

Ms. Cooke came to Florida in 1992 and served as Executive Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida until 1999. At that time, she was appointed Chief Inspector General for the State of Florida by Governor Jeb Bush. Ms. Cooke currently serves as an Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney representing the county in a variety of matters including litigation on behalf of the Housing Agency, the Department of Human Services and defensive tort litigation.

Applicants for the vacant district judgeship created upon the death of Judge Wilkie D. Ferguson were considered by the Judicial Nominating Commission chaired by Roberto Martinez. Ms. Cooke was one of six finalists recommended by the Commission to the President. Upon commissioning, Judge Cooke will be located in Miami, Florida.

Please contact Clarence Maddox, the Court Administrator at (305) 523-5011 if you have questions.