

PRESS RELEASE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR
THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA
January 15, 2010

Cheryl Renae Zwart was sworn in this afternoon as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Nebraska federal district court. Judge Zwart succeeds Magistrate Judge David L. Piester, who retired in August.

Born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Judge Zwart now resides in Lincoln, Nebraska. She graduated summa cum laude from the University of South Dakota in 1980, and obtained her law degree with high distinction from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1988. Judge Zwart is known for her integrity, professionalism, intellect, work ethic, and even temperament.

Judge Zwart focused on civil litigation while working at the Knudsen Law Firm as an associate and partner until 2001. She also served as a mediator in personal injury, contract, and employment disputes. While working at Knudsen, she served as an adjunct professor at the University of Nebraska College of Law, teaching civil clinic and pretrial litigation.

In August 2001, Judge Zwart commenced employment with this court as Magistrate Judge Piester's law clerk. As a law clerk, she drafted memoranda, orders, and report and recommendations in civil and criminal cases. In addition, Judge Zwart worked on the pro se docket and served on the court's Continuity of Operations Plan Committee and Docket and Local Rules Committee. She also continued her work as an adjunct professor at the University of Nebraska College of Law, teaching pretrial litigation, remedies, and trial advocacy. She also judged moot court, served as a facilitator for beginning law students during break-out sessions on professionalism, and served as a mentor for the Summer Pre-Law Institute at the College of Law. Judge Zwart is the President of the Van Pelt Inn of Court and previously served as President-Elect, Program Chair, and an Executive Committee member.

Since 1996, Judge Zwart has mentored young people in the community through the Girl Scouts of America, serving as Service Unit Event Coordinator, Silver and Gold Award Advisor, and Troop Leader. She has also volunteered her time and talents to the Lincoln Arthritis Foundation Board, Presbyterian Youth Committee, and Southeast Community College.

Judge Zwart will maintain her office in the Robert V. Denney Federal Building in Lincoln Nebraska.

For further information, contact:

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