



NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania Reflects on Passing of Retired Judge Johnny J. Butler

HARRISBURG – Commonwealth Court President Judge Renée Cohn Jubelirer released the following statement on behalf of the Court following the passing of retired Judge Johnny J. Butler recently:

“We are deeply saddened about the passing of our former colleague, Judge Johnny J. Butler. Judge Butler was a wonderful man who will be remembered for his intellect, fortitude and commitment to public service. Our sincerest condolences go out to Judge Butler’s family, friends and colleagues as they grieve this difficult loss.”

Judge Butler served on the Commonwealth Court from 2008 until 2011. Prior to joining the Court, he was appointed Secretary of Labor and Industry in 1995 by then Governor Tom Ridge, where he served until 2003.

A dedicated public servant, he held several roles at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) including Associate Regional Attorney (1975-79), Philadelphia District Director (1979-95) and Acting General Counsel (1984-87).

Judge Butler also served as an adjunct professor at Howard and Temple Universities, on the Board of Directors for the Philadelphia African-American Museum, and as an assistant counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund in the beginning of his career.

Majoring in economics and minoring in business, Judge Butler received his bachelor’s degree from Howard University. Later, he earned his law degree from Howard University School of Law. He then received an L.L.M. from Columbia University in 1972.

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