

***New Chief Judge of the Appellate Court Named; Appointment Effective Aug. 1, 2020***



Chief Justice Richard A. Robinson today announced the appointment of the Hon. William H. Bright Jr. as Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, effective Aug. 1, 2020.

Judge Bright, who has served on the Appellate Court since November 2017, will replace the [Hon. Alexandra D. DiPentima](#), who has served as chief judge of the Appellate Court since March 2010. Judge DiPentima is taking senior status effective July 31, 2020, meaning she will continue to hear Appellate Court cases on a part-time basis.

“It is impossible to fully capture the impact Judge DiPentima has had on the Appellate Court over the past decade.” Chief Justice Robinson said. “She is a brilliant jurist and respected leader. She has an easygoing nature that puts people at ease immediately yet at the same time, she gets things done. It is no exaggeration to say that she exemplifies the qualities for which every judge should strive.”

“So too does Judge Bright, and I am thrilled that he has accepted the position,” Chief Justice Robinson added. “As is Judge DiPentima, he is universally respected, and I have great confidence in his ability to lead this court.”

Former Gov. Dannel P. Malloy nominated Judge Bright to the Appellate Court on Oct. 4, 2017, and he was sworn in on Nov. 1, 2017. Prior to his appointment, Judge Bright served as a judge of the Superior Court, having been nominated by then-Gov. M. Jodi Rell in January 2008. While a Superior Court judge, he served as the chief administrative judge for the civil division and as the administrative and presiding judge for the Tolland/Rockville Judicial District, where he heard civil, criminal and habeas corpus matters. More biographical information is available [here](#).

“It is truly an honor to be chosen by Chief Justice Robinson to serve as the next chief judge of the Appellate Court,” Judge Bright said. “I have the privilege of working every day with a collegial group of smart, hard-working and experienced

judges, as well as with our talented and dedicated staff. I look forward to many years of continuing our work together for the people of Connecticut.”

He added: “The idea of following Judge DiPentima as chief judge is somewhat daunting as she has set the gold standard for the job. She has very competently and astutely served as our chief judge for over a decade. We are all grateful for her tireless efforts on behalf of the court and Judicial Branch, and I will do my best to carry on her leadership qualities during my tenure.”