

United States District Court
District of New Mexico
Office of the Clerk



Matthew J. Dykman
Clerk of Court

Pete V. Domenici United States Courthouse

333 Lomas Blvd. N.W. - Suite 270
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102
(505) 348-2000 - Fax (505) 348-2028

Divisional Offices
106 South Federal Place
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 988-6481
Fax (505) 988-6473

100 North Church Street
Las Cruces, NM 88001
(575) 528-1400

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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JUDGE WILLIAM P. JOHNSON APPOINTED CHIEF JUDGE OF
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - The United States District Court for the District of New Mexico announces the appointment of Judge William P. Johnson as the new Chief Judge following the retirement from active service of Judge M. Christina Armijo.

Born and raised in Roanoke, Virginia, Judge Johnson received his bachelor's degree in economics from the Virginia Military Institute in 1981. He accepted a reserve commission in the United States Army Reserve and then earned his juris doctorate degree from the Washington and Lee University School of Law in 1985.

Judge Johnson practiced law as a civil litigation attorney for ten years. In 1995, Judge Johnson began his judicial career as a New Mexico State District Judge in the Fifth Judicial District Court in Roswell where he presided over a general jurisdiction docket of criminal, civil, domestic relations and children's court cases.

In August of 2001, President George W. Bush nominated Judge Johnson to fill a vacancy on the federal court bench in New Mexico. His nomination was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in December of 2001.

Although Judge Johnson's duty station is in Albuquerque, since joining the federal court he has spent a considerable amount of time in Las Cruces presiding over border related cases for the District of New Mexico. Additionally, Judge Johnson has sat by designation on the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit and has been designated to preside over cases in the U.S. District Courts for the Districts of Wyoming, Utah, Kansas, Colorado and Western Oklahoma.

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