

Magistrate Judge Nominated for D.C. Superior Court Seat

D.C. Superior Court Magistrate Judge William Nooter, who serves as the court's presiding magistrate judge, is President Barack Obama's latest nominee for an associate judge position in Superior Court.

The White House announced late yesterday that Nooter was the president's nominee to fill Judge A. Franklin Burgess' seat. Burgess is set to retire in August and take senior status.

Nooter, who couldn't immediately be reached for comment this morning, has served as a magistrate judge in Superior Court since 2000. If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Nooter would fill one of three current or expected vacancies in Superior Court.

According to records from the D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission, which vets applicants for the city's local courts and makes recommendations to the White House, Nooter has applied at least nine times for a Superior Court judgeship since 2008. In 2009, he was among a group of lawyers recommended by the commission to the White House for an open seat, but he wasn't nominated.

According to his court biography, Nooter earned his law degree from George Washington University Law School in 1981. From 1982 to 1989, he was a trial attorney in the District of Columbia's Office of Corporation Counsel, now known as the Office of the Attorney General.

From 1989 until his appointment as a magistrate judge, Nooter litigated civil cases in D.C. and Maryland at Washington's Jordan Coyne & Savits. As a magistrate judge, he's served in the criminal and civil divisions, the domestic violence unit and Family Court.

Nooter will go before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee for a confirmation hearing. The full Senate will then vote on his nomination.

Posted by Zoe Tillman on July 12, 2013 at 10:49 AM