

PRESS RELEASE

September 8, 2006

Robert E. Keeton, a Senior Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, has retired effective September 8, 2006. Judge Keeton was appointed in 1979 and became a Senior Judge in 2003. He is eighty-six years old.

Chief Judge Mark L. Wolf said that: "At the time of his appointment, Judge Keeton had already had exceptionally distinguished careers as a trial lawyer in Texas, and as a professor at the Harvard Law School, where he taught trial practice, insurance, and torts, subjects on which he was recognized as among the nation's preeminent authorities. On the bench, Judge Keeton educated the public, the bar, and his colleagues, by his example and through his book, Keeton on Judging in the American Legal System. The esteem in which Judge Keeton has been held nationally was reflected in his appointment by Chief Justice William Rehnquist to serve from 1990-1993, as the Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, which is responsible for developing the Federal Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedure. Judge Keeton will be much missed, but not forgotten."

In his letter informing President George W. Bush of his retirement, Judge Keeton wrote that he was "grateful" for "the rewarding and satisfying experience" of serving on the United States District Court.

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