



Public Information Office
United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

Office of the Circuit Executive · 95 7th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 · (415) 355-8800 · (415) 355-8901 Fax

NEWS RELEASE

July 18, 2012

Contact: David Madden (415) 355-8800

**Idaho Hall of Fame Inducts
Ninth Circuit Judge N. Randy Smith**

SAN FRANCISCO – Judge N. Randy Smith of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has been inducted into the Idaho Hall of Fame, joining a select group of individuals deemed to have advanced the common good of those residing in the "Gem State."

The induction ceremony was held Tuesday, July 17, in Pocatello, Idaho, where Judge Smith resides and has his chambers. Idaho Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter was on hand to present Judge Smith with a plaque denoting the honor.

The Idaho Hall of Fame was established by the Idaho Legislature in 1995 and has a permanent display in the state capitol building. Inductees include historical figures, elected officials, military leaders, entrepreneurs, social service providers, historians and sports figures. Among them are Sacajawea, the Shoshone Indian woman who guided the Lewis and Clark expedition; the late Nez Perce Tribe leader Chief Joseph; World War II fighter ace Gregory "Pappy" Boyington; baseball great Harmon Killebrew; and Hollywood actress Lana Turner.

"I am a bit overwhelmed to be included in such company," Judge Smith said prior to the ceremony. "I don't know if I am in the same league with these people, but I am very honored."

A respected jurist who previously served on the Idaho state court bench for a dozen years, Judge Smith was nominated in part for developing an innovative drug court in 2002, which is credited with reducing recidivism among defendants charged with drug offenses.

– more –

Nominated by President George W. Bush, Judge Smith has served on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals since 2007. He previously served as judge for Idaho's Sixth Judicial District from 1995 to 2007. In 2003, he received the Idaho court system's George G. Granada Jr. Award for Professionalism, recognizing leadership and professionalism. Other honors include Idaho State University's Statesman of the Year Award, presented to him in 2005.

Born in Logan, Utah, Judge Smith received his B.S. degree from Brigham Young University in 1974 and his J.D. from BYU's J. Reuben Clark School of Law in 1977. Prior to coming onto the bench, he practiced as a civil litigator with the law firm of Merrill & Merrill, focusing on corporate civil litigation and insurance defense cases.

Judge Smith also served as an adjunct professor in the management and political science departments of Idaho State University, where he has taught courses in business law, environmental law and judicial process. He was the first adjunct faculty member to be selected as the Outstanding Teacher by the university's College of Business, which presented him the award in 2005.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Court hears appeals of decisions by executive branch agencies and federal trial courts in nine western states and two Pacific island jurisdictions. The court, which is authorized 29 active judgeships and currently has one vacancy, normally meets monthly in Seattle, Washington; San Francisco, California; and Pasadena, California; every other month in Portland, Oregon; three times per year in Honolulu, Hawaii; and twice a year in Anchorage, Alaska.

###