

September 24, 2012

'Zeus of the Law' Sworn In to Become D.C. Court of Appeals Judge



Updated 2:36 p.m.

At the September 21 investiture ceremony for Roy McLeese III, who was sworn in to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, friends and former colleagues gave glowing compliments about his qualifications and temperament.

District of Columbia Superior Court Judge Florence Pan said McLeese possessed a vast amount of legal knowledge, which he was happy to share with others. "In my eyes, he was like a Zeus of the law," she said. She described him as having the "ability to give the answer to every legal question we asked of him."

David Fein, U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut and a close friend of McLeese's for 25 years, described McLeese as a private person.

Fein said McLeese, the former appellate division chief in the U.S. Attorney's office for the District of Columbia and a former acting deputy solicitor general, is smart and compassionate,

and has a variety of hobbies that go far beyond court, including cooking, football, and the card game hearts. He also has a particular talent for the iPhone/iPad game Words with Friends.

Virginia Seitz, McLeese's wife and head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, was the last to speak. She described how much of a joy it is raising children with him. "If you could design the perfect man to raise children with, you would design Roy," she said.

Paul Strauss, a D.C. attorney and a shadow senator for the District, was also in attendance. "D.C. is lucky to have someone of his qualifications," he said of McLeese. "I have every confidence his tenure will live up to all the accolades that were spoken about him to date."

Photo by Diego Radzinski. From Left: U.S. District Court Judge James Boasberg, and Roy McLeese III. McLeese's daughter, Miranda Seitz-McLeese, is holding the Bible.

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