September 17, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

NANCY E. BRASEL TAKES FEDERAL COURT OATH

MINNEAPOLIS, MN – Chief Judge John R. Tunheim is pleased to announce that on September 17, Nancy E. Brasel took the oath of office to become the Court’s 37th United States District Court Judge. Judge Brasel was administered the oath by Chief Judge Tunheim in a private ceremony; a public investiture ceremony will be held at a later date.

Brasel earned her Bachelor of Arts from Trinity University, where she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, her Master of Arts from the University of Texas at Austin, and her Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from the University of Minnesota, where she was inducted into the Order of the Coif and served as a managing editor of the Minnesota Law Review.

Upon graduation from law school, Brasel served as a law clerk to Judge Donald P. Lay of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. She then practiced at Leonard, Street and Deinard (now Stinson Leonard Street, and then became a partner at Greene Espel, P.L.L.P., where her practice focused on business and employment litigation. Prior to her state judicial appointment, she spent three years as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota, where she prosecuted defendants for narcotics, firearms, and financial crimes. In 2011, Governor of Minnesota Mark Dayton appointed Brasel to the Minnesota State District Court for the Fourth Judicial District, serving Hennepin County.

While serving on the state court bench, Brasel presided over criminal, civil, and juvenile matters. During her three-year service on the Juvenile Court bench, Brasel oversaw cases involving sexually exploited youth, and served on several committees aimed at helping sexually exploited youth and teen girls. Prior to her service on the bench, Brasel served on the Board of the Domestic Abuse Project in Minneapolis.
Brasel was nominated by President Donald Trump on February 12, 2018 and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on August 28, 2018. She fills the vacancy created when Judge Ann D. Montgomery took senior status.

Brasel will be chambered in the St. Paul Federal Courthouse, located at 316 North Robert Street.

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