

## UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Policy 223

June 8, 2017

### INVESTITURE CEREMONIES - DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

**Intent:** An investiture is a public ceremony to confer the role of judge on an attorney. It is the intent of the judiciary to recognize the significance of this passage of an attorney from an advocate to a neutral arbiter of the law and to create an opportunity for the public to participate in an historical occasion.

**Investiture Ceremony:** Investiture ceremonies should be planned in conjunction with the unit court administrator and should reflect the public nature of the judiciary, as well as the formality of the occasion and its significance to the community. The investiture ceremony should take place as close as possible to the judge's first day on the bench. Unless space considerations prohibit it, all investiture ceremonies should take place in the courthouse where the judge is chambered.

**Costs:** Up to five hundred dollars will be allowed for the investiture ceremony and a public reception. Approved expenditures include the costs of invitations, agendas, paper products, food, beverages, a guest book, a floral centerpiece, and rent for facilities if the ceremony cannot be held at the courthouse.

A judge may choose to provide additional funding for the reception at his or her own expense.

**Gavel:** If a gavel is not provided by the bar association or others, then up to \$100 will be allowed for the purchase of an engraved gavel to be used in the investiture ceremony and given to the judge as a commemoration of the occasion.

**Robe:** Consistent with Policy 210R, the court will provide reimbursement for the purchase and dry cleaning of a robe to be used in the ceremony.

Approved by the Supreme Court 06/08/17