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The Fayetteville Press

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Fayetteville maintains diversity on the bench

Judge Toni S. King District Court Judge

by Jae McKrae www.fayettevillepress.com

Attorney Toni S. King, of Miller, King & Clouse Law Firm, took the oath for District Court Judge, Thursday, March 5 in the Law Enforcement Center with a capacity filled court room of colleagues, family, and friends looking on; her parents were also there to witness every word. The crowd flowed into the hallway, and the courtroom doors were open to listen to the swearing-in ceremony. Superior Court Judge E. Lynn Johnson did the honors. at the Law Enforcement Center

Gov. Bev Perdue selected Toni King in February to replace outgoing Judge Cheri Beasley, who left the District Court bench last year in December after being elected to the state Court of Appeals.

Toni's colleague and former law partner Sherry Miller introduced her, and even shared King's prior accomplishments. Then, she told the story of how they met. Attorney Sherry Miller, of Miller, King & Clouse, said the two met when Miller worked at Rogers & Miller Law Firm, and Toni was there as an intern. "I was impressed by her competence and knowledge," she said. Atty. Glenn Adams said, "We've watched her grow and mature not only as an attorney, but also as a person, and we're proud to have her as our newest judge." Other also thought back to their first encounter with Toni.



Photo by JJ Jones

Judge Toni S. King

Took the oath for District Court Judge, Thursday, March 5 in the Fayetteville, NC Law Enforcement Center Sherry Miller reflected on what King endured to reach judgeship. Toni King was born in Korea, and lived there before the family relocated to North Carolina. Living in Cumberland County, King also attended middle school and high school here. When her family moved to Germany, and after graduating from high school, King headed to Durham for a degree from North Carolina Central University. Then it was on to NCCU's School of Law. In 2000, she came back Fayetteville to practice law.

Visibly shaken with joy, Toni King said, "You've embraced me and I appreciate it, and I promise to carry out justice and maintain integrity while on the bench. I hope I continue to make you all proud." King later thanked everyone for coming to share in the moment.

Chief District Court Judge Beth Keever welcomed King to a group of judges and said the group needed some diversity. "Cumberland County is a very unique county. It's a very diverse county, and King's placement on the bench made it "more representative of the community we serve."

The new District Court Judge Toni King is of African-American and Korean ethnicity.

Congratulations District Court Judge Toni S.King.

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Now celebrating 33 years of community service, The Fayetteville Press News- Paper is a fresh, comprehensive minority newspaper designed specifically for the residents of Fayetteville, Ft. Bragg, Pope Air Force Base, Hope Mills, Spring Lake and Raeford, NC. The Fayetteville Press Newspaper has been in existence since 1989. The Publisher & President is Mr. J.J. Jones. The Fayetteville Press Newspaper is published Monthly and is currently circulated among an <u>estimate</u> of 35,000 residents and businesses (and growing). Each publication contains timely, creative issues, features, facts, articles and advice.

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