

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

**** P R E S S R E L E A S E ****

Date: October 27, 2011

Subject: Selection of New Magistrate Judge in Syracuse, New York

From: Chief Judge Norman A. Mordue

On October 24, 2011 the Board of Judges of the Northern District of New York selected Therese Wiley Dancks, Esq., as our newest Magistrate Judge (*subject to the FBI background check*) upon the retirement of Magistrate Judge George H. Lowe. Magistrate Judge Lowe will be retiring on February 9, 2012. Judge Lowe was appointed United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of New York in 2004.

Therese Wiley Dancks, Esq., is a 1985 graduate (Magna Cum Laude) from LeMoyne College and earned her J.D. from Syracuse University, College of Law (Cum Laude) in 1991. Ms. Dancks was admitted to practice in the New York State Courts in January 1992, and in the Northern District of New York in April of 1992. She served as an associate attorney in the Mackenzie Law Firm in Syracuse from 1991 - 1997. Ms. Dancks is a founding partner in the law firm of Gale and Dancks and has served in that role since 1997 with her long time law partner, Catherine A. Gale, Esq.

Ms. Dancks has been actively involved in the legal community since earning her J.D. in 1991.

Her memberships include: the American Health Lawyers Association; the Defense Research Institute; New York State Bar Association - Employment Law Section Member, Torts and Insurance Law Section Member, and a member of the New York State Womens Bar Association, serving as president of the Central New York Chapter from 1994 - 1996.

She is also a member of the Madison and Onondaga County Bar Associations. Her pro bono activities include: service on the 5th Judicial District Pro Bono Committee; Volunteer Lawyers Landlord/Tenant Court; City Court Small Claims Arbitrator; Onondaga County Pro Bono Coalition Member; Onondaga County Pro Bono Consortium Advisory Board Member; CNY Womens Bar Association Domestic Violence Project member; Hiscock Legal Aid Society Board of Directors member - 2002 to 2011, along with many other community-based organizations.

I am pleased to welcome Ms. Dancks to the Northern District bench. The Judges and Court staff are looking forward to her joining the Northern District Court family. I am confident that she will serve the litigants and public well in her new position as a United States Magistrate Judge.