

## PRESS RELEASE

The United States District Court announced today that, with the approval of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Council, the Probation and Pretrial Services Offices in the District of Maryland have been consolidated effective May 1, 2001. With the retirement of David Johnson on April 30, 2001, after 15 years of distinguished service as the Chief Probation Officer, the Court has appointed William F. Henry as the new Chief Probation and Pretrial Services Officer effective May 1, 2001 to head the consolidated office. Mr. Henry has been the Chief Pretrial Services Officer in Maryland since July 1995, and has earned the full confidence of the Court.

As one of the original pilot districts for independent pretrial services, the District of Maryland has long relied on the services provided by the U.S. Pretrial Services Office. Although consolidated, the Pretrial Services Unit will continue to operate within the two courthouse buildings, while the larger Presentence and Probation Supervision Units will be in separate locations close to the courthouses. Both Mr. Henry and the Court are fully committed to maintaining the independent function of pretrial services while recognizing the efficiencies that can be gained from consolidation of the two offices.

Mr. Henry was appointed as a Pretrial Services Officer in the Eastern District of Virginia in 1989 and served in numerous capacities including Deputy Chief. Prior to joining the Federal system, Mr. Henry was employed as a Virginia Probation and Parole Officer. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in criminal justice from East Tennessee State University and is a 1994 graduate of the FJC's Leadership Development Program.

As the Chief Pretrial Services Officer, Mr. Henry implemented an array of new initiatives, and has paid special attention to developing meaningful performance measures to guide daily operations. Other innovations have included an employee self appraisal component for employee evaluations, revision of the case intake process whereby Pretrial Services now coordinates and schedules all initial appearances, streamlining fiscal and operational areas, expanding the Pretrial Diversion program, and organizing the first Pretrial Services Fourth Circuit Conference.

May 3, 2001