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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement of Justice Diane S. Sykes on nomination to the U.S. Court of Appeals

Milwaukee, Wis. (Nov. 14, 2003) – Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Diane S. Sykes today issued the following statement in response to her nomination to the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit:

I am deeply honored by the President's nomination, and look forward to the Senate confirmation process. It has been a great privilege to serve the people of Wisconsin for the past 11 years as a Milwaukee County Circuit Court judge and as a justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve the people of Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

Sykes took the bench in Milwaukee County Circuit Court in 1992, and served in the court's misdemeanor, felony, and civil divisions. In 1999, then-Governor Tommy G. Thompson appointed her to the state Supreme Court; she won a 10-year term in a statewide election in 2000.

If confirmed, Sykes will replace Judge John L. Coffey on the Federal Court of Appeals. Coffey also served on the Wisconsin Supreme Court – from 1978-81 – and has served for 22 years on the U.S. Court of Appeals.

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