



City of Cambridge

25.

IN CITY COUNCIL

September 8, 1997

COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
 VICE MAYOR BORN
 COUNCILLOR DAVIS
 COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
 COUNCILLOR REEVES
 MAYOR RUSSELL
 COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
 COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
 COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: On Wednesday, August 13, 1997, **Roderick L. Ireland**, was unanimously confirmed to the Supreme Judicial Court; and

WHEREAS: Justice Ireland has served as an outstanding juvenile and appellate judge; and

WHEREAS: Justice Ireland has a strong conviction that issues which affect youth, such as abuse, neglect, school issues and family relationships, need to be addressed by society and the law; and

WHEREAS: Justice Ireland is the author of a textbook on juvenile justice; and

WHEREAS: Justice Ireland holds degrees from Lincoln University, Columbia and Harvard Law School and received his PhD from Northeastern University; and

WHEREAS: Justice Ireland will be the first African American Judge on the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record congratulating **Justice Roderick L. Ireland** on his confirmation to the Supreme Judicial Court; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to **Justice Roderick L. Ireland** on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council September 8, 1997.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

D. Margaret Drury

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk

Justice ~~Rodach~~ Roderick L. Ireland on his
confirmation to the Supreme Judicial Court; and
all it further

Resolved

Clerk send copy!

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By Adrian Walker
GLOBE STAFF

It took centuries, yet it was done in a matter of minutes.

At 12:16 p.m. yesterday, nine minutes after the weekly Governor's Council meeting was convened and 305 years after the Supreme Judicial Court was established as one of the first courts in the new world, Roderick L. Ireland was unanimously confirmed as its first black associate justice.

Ireland, 52, comes to the court after nearly 20 years as a juvenile and appellate judge. He is regarded as an expert on juvenile justice, an unusual area of expertise on appellate courts. He replaces retiring Justice Francis P. O'Connor.

"Judge Ireland, I believe, has been a great judge on the juvenile court and a great judge on the appeals court," said Councilor Christopher Iannella. "He has the demeanor and temperament and will be a great addition to the Supreme Judicial Court."

Ireland, who did not attend the hearing, said he hopes his experience in dealing with family and juvenile issues on the bench will be an asset to the court.

"If there's an area that really needs attention, it's young people," said Ireland, a Milton resident. "I'm not just talking about juvenile offenders, I'm talking about issues of abuse and neglect, school issues, and relationships with siblings, grandparents and foster parents."

Ireland, who has been a justice on the Massachusetts Appeals Court since 1990, acknowledged that he is expected by some to serve as a liberal counterweight to conservative Charles Fried on the court, but said he plans to ignore such pressures.

"I'm not buying into that at all," Ireland said. "I may agree with him on some things and he may agree with me on some. I think part of an appellate judge's function is to interact with the other judges and share different points of view. It's a collegial process. I don't want to get painted in a corner where I'm paint-

'The diversity that he adds to the court as well as his innate abilities ... make him a wonderful addition to the Supreme Judicial Court.'

ACTING GOVERNOR
PAUL CELLUCCI

ed as a foil for Charles Fried and he's painted as the foil for me. I don't think that would be good for the court."

A Springfield native, Ireland holds degrees from Lincoln University and Columbia and Harvard law schools. The author of a well-regarded textbook on juvenile justice, Ireland is finishing a PhD at Northeastern University.

He was first appointed to the bench in 1977 by Governor Michael S. Dukakis as a juvenile judge in Roxbury. Dukakis also appointed him to the appellate court in 1990.

Acting Governor Paul Cellucci praised Ireland yesterday.

"The diversity that he adds to the court as well as his innate abilities ... make him a wonderful addition to the Supreme Judicial Court," Cellucci said.

Ireland declined to characterize the judicial views of his new colleagues or to say where he thought he might fit in on the court philosophically. But he said he believes children and families deserve more attention.

"I hope I can bring insight from my years as a trial judge and my involvement with families and children and disenfranchised people, the have-nots of society," Ireland said in an interview. "I hope I can bring the sum total of who I am into the courtroom."

Smoke spurs Malden Mills evacuation

By Bruce Butterfield
GLOBE STAFF

tion in a mechanical room on the roof."

He said there was no damage to the mill, and workers returned to

METHUEN - About 200 work-

AG.

Robert, Norman 8/14 paper ✓

Morin Mc Namara ✓

Charles Leo Montini ✓

re - confirmation
2nd of Justice Ireland
Ch Globe front page ✓

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Consent Order #25

Entire
memb.

R-1129

Councillor Galluccio re: Congratulations
to Justice Roderick L. Ireland on his
confirmation to the Supreme Judicial
Court.

In City Council September 8, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED