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NAPCO appoints Judicial Branch Leaders as President and Vice President

The National Association for Presiding Judges and Court Executive Officers (NAPCO), formerly the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts (NCMC), elected Presiding Judge Janet Barton of the Judicial Branch of Arizona in Maricopa County as President and Judicial Branch Administrator Ray Billotte as Vice President.

As president and vice president of NAPCO, Judge Barton and Mr. Billotte will lead an independent, nonprofit, education and research organization comprised of chief/presiding judges and court executives in state and local trial courts who are committed to enhancing the effective administration of justice in general, limited and specialized courts. The organization works to improve the administration of justice in America's state trial courts for more than five decades.

"I am honored and flattered by this appointment. NAPCO's past leaders and executive board have worked hard to establish NAPCO as the preeminent national organization for presiding judges and court executive officers," Judge Barton said. "I look forward to working with them to continue their efforts in that regard."

Judge Barton and Mr. Billotte were elected during NAPCO's First Annual Trial Court Leadership Conference on September 25-28 in Cleveland, Ohio. The conference brought together presiding judges and court executives from across the country to discuss challenges faced by state and local trial court leaders; to propose solutions and to enhance team skills among judges and administrators.

"The creation of NAPCO is an important step in helping presiding judges and court executive officers develop and improve their leadership skills," noted Mr. Billotte. "The organization provides a valuable forum for court leaders to work collaboratively to advance the efficiency and effectiveness of our nation's trial courts."

Mr. Billotte is the first vice president of the newly formed NAPCO. Prior to his officer position in NAPCO, he was a board member of the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts (NCMC) and its Strategic Planning Committee, which was instrumental in creating NAPCO.

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