



[News >> Top Stories](#)

Barbour appoints Adams as judge

[Print Page](#)

By Charlie Smith
Staff Writer

Published: Wednesday, October 1, 2008 12:03 PM CDT

Special Judge Kevin Adams has been appointed by Gov. Haley Barbour to fill the remainder of Solomon Osborne's term.

Barbour announced today that Adams will become Leflore County judge on Monday and will serve Osborne's unexpired term through the 2010 elections.

"Kevin's solid credentials as a well-qualified, conscientious judge make him the perfect choice for this position. I'm pleased he has accepted this important role, and I know he will continue to be an asset to Mississippi's judicial system," Barbour said in a prepared statement.

Adams said he was pleased that Barbour and the Judicial Appointments Advisory Committee, which reviews the qualifications of potential judicial appointees, found his credentials and accomplishments satisfactory.

"I'm certainly honored that the governor had recognized the work that I had done so far in the job as special judge," he said.

The state Supreme Court chose Adams to take Osborne's place during a 180-day unpaid suspension that began April 10 resulting from Osborne's conduct during an attempted repossession in 2002 of a vehicle owned by his family.

That six-month suspension was set to expire Sunday. Osborne resigned in May.

He previously had been suspended with pay for 17 months, starting in January 2003, while the Commission on Judicial Performance investigated a complaint that he had illegally continued his private law practice after becoming a judge.

The high court is still considering two recommendations that Osborne be banned from the bench for life.

Adams presides over Leflore County youth court and some civil cases and criminal appeals.

He said he is hopeful about the positive changes for the community he can make through youth court.

"I really think we're on the right track," Adams said. "We've gotten some good grants."

Those grants include a \$66,000 block grant that will provide counseling services to juveniles and their parents through Life Help.

Adams said it's important to include parents so they can learn to communicate better with their children and control their behavior.

"I'm really looking forward to the future," he said.

Adams has spent a decade practicing law in Greenwood, previously working as the court administrator for the seventh chancery court district. He is president of the Mississippi Court Administrators Association.

His new job pays \$96,645 a year.

Copyright © 2010 - Greenwood Commonwealth

[x] Close Window