Meet Madison County's New Interim District Court Judge for Civil Claims: Attorney Robert E. Patterson

Huntsville Attorney Robert E. Patterson has been appointed as the interim District Court judge for civil claims in Madison County, Alabama.



Huntsville, Alabama Apr 24, 2023 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>) - This appointment follows an unexpected opening of one of Madison County's judgeships. Attorney Patterson, who has over 40 years of experience practicing civil and criminal law in the courts of Alabama, will serve as the district court judge for civil claims until a full-time judge can be appointed by Governor Kay Ivey.

Attorney Patterson will continue to run and manage his law firm while serving in the capacity of judge. As the district court judge for civil claims, Attorney Patterson will be responsible for hearing civil disputes, including car accidents and other injury cases. Victims of car accidents occasionally choose to file their personal injury claims in district court if their damages are less than \$20,000. In the district court, disputes are decided by a judge rather than a jury. Also, there is limited pre-trial discovery in district court, meaning the parties do not have to exchange documents or other information before trial.

Attorney Patterson was chosen for this role based on his extensive experience with civil court claims, having represented thousands of clients over his career. Although he admits that he would instead be advocating in the courtroom than serving as the judge, he is honored to have the opportunity to serve the community, even if it is only for a limited time. About 90% of his time is spent handling personal injury claims, and he is pleased to volunteer as a judge to ensure the swift administration of justice for county residents.

The appointment of Attorney Patterson as the interim district court judge for civil claims will benefit the community in several ways. One of the major advantages of the district court in Alabama is that cases usually resolve in 3-6 months, much quicker and more efficiently than circuit court litigation.

Attorney Robert E. Patterson has a proven track record of serving the community and advocating for his clients. His appointment as the interim district court judge for civil claims in Madison County should benefit the community and the legal system as a whole.

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