

## Court Information Release



United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division  
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

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### **After distinguished career on federal bench, Judge Shadur retires**

Chicago, Ill. – Today Chief United States District Judge Rubén Castillo announced that after 37 years, United States District Judge Milton I. Shadur will retire as of September 1, 2017. Judge Shadur was nominated by then-President Jimmy Carter in 1980, filling the vacancy of Judge Hubert L. Will. Judge Shadur’s 37 years as a district judge include a quarter century of service as a senior judge.

Judge Shadur notified Chief Judge Castillo that due to complications from recent surgery, he plans to have his cases reassigned over the next month as he works through his docket. Even though Judge Shadur has not been able to travel to court since his surgery he has managed his full calendar by diligently issuing numerous opinions and orders. Judge Shadur stated that, “It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as a district judge.”

Chief Judge Castillo stated, “Milt Shadur is simply a legend, and this Court will miss his dedication to his cases, his remarkable work ethic and his love of the law. His knowledge of the law is truly encyclopedic and his intellectual curiosity is boundless. For 37 years Judge Shadur worked tirelessly, arriving early and working most weekends. Each morning Judge Shadur walked into his courtroom on the 23<sup>rd</sup> floor and promptly dealt with many complex issues during his status calls. Judge Shadur’s dedicated public service will forever be treasured by our Court.”

Chief Judge Castillo also noted, “Judge Shadur has authored over 11,000 district court opinions, many of which directly impacted the rights of thousands of individuals. No other member of our court can match this stunning body of written work. Early in his career he wrote a number of opinions as he monitored the implementation of a desegregation plan for the Chicago public school system. In another case having a substantial impact on the civil rights of individuals, Judge Shadur held that Illinois had systematically denied its prisoners in protective custody various constitutional rights. Judge Shadur has written so many opinions in cases of first impression involving federal civil procedure that he has been a major influence in the evolution of federal law in that area.”

Born in St. Paul, Minnesota, Judge Shadur graduated from the University of Chicago at the age of 18 with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and physics. In 1949, Judge Shadur received his J.D. from the University of Chicago after serving as a radar officer in the United States Navy during World War II and earning the rank of lieutenant (junior grade). Judge Shadur has been married to his wife Eleanor for over 70 years. Prior to his nomination to the bench, he was in private practice from 1949-80. In addition to his service as a United States District Judge, various Chief Justices of the United States have designated Judge Shadur to sit on nine Courts of Appeals around the country. Judge Shadur has also contributed significantly to the administration of justice throughout the nation by his work on the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on the Rules of Evidence, on which he served for nearly 10 years. Judge Shadur chaired that Committee from late 1999 until September 30, 2002.

Pursuant to the Local Rules and Internal Operating Procedures of the Court, the Clerk will randomly reassign Judge Shadur's pending cases as he finishes his time on the bench.

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