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Hughes names Judge Hubbard as 4th woman on Circuit Court

Annapolis Bureau of The Sun

ANNAPOLIS — Baltimore District Court Judge Mabel E. Houze Hubbard was appointed by Governor Hughes yesterday to the city's Circuit Court, raising to four the number of women on the 23-member bench.

Mr. Hughes also named Chevy Chase attorney Peter J. Messitte to a seat on the Montgomery County Circuit Court. In 1982, Mr. Messitte unsuccessfully attempted to become a judge by running against four sitting Circuit Court judges who were up for election.

Judge Hubbard, 48, will replace Judge Robert B. Watts, who recently announced his retirement. Her appointment will preserve the court's current racial makeup of eight blacks and 15 whites.

Mr. Messitte, 43, will replace Judge John F. McAuliffe, Jr., who was recently appointed by Governor Hughes to the Court of Appeals to replace the late Judge Rita C. Davidson.

Judge Hubbard is a native of De-

troit, a graduate of the University of Michigan and the University of Maryland School of Law, and is a former assistant city solicitor in the Baltimore City Law Department. She was named to the district court bench in 1981.

She is a member of the Monumental Bar Association and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

Mr. Messitte is a native of Washington who has been practicing law in Chevy Chase since 1975. He received his undergraduate degree from Amherst College in Massachusetts and his law degree from the University of Chicago.

From 1966 until 1968, Mr. Messitte served in the Peace Corps in Brazil.

Both Judge Hubbard and Mr. Messitte were recommended to Governor Hughes by judicial nominating commissions and both will serve until the November, 1986, general election, when voters will decide who will fill the seats for the full 15-year terms.