

■ THE JUDICIARY

Governor Appoints Carrion, Allison to Baltimore City Circuit Court

BY PETER GEIER

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Gov. Parris N. Glendening announced the appointment yesterday of two new judges to the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

The governor named Audrey J. S. Carrion, now serving on the bench of the Maryland District Court for Baltimore City, to replace Judge Mabel E. Houze Hubbard, who retired in August; and Kaye A. Allison, currently an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Baltimore, to replace Judge Edward J. Angeletti upon his retirement next week.

Glendening also reappointed Judge Thomas E. Noel to the city circuit court.

"The appointments ... reflect our longtime commitment to select the most highly qualified Marylanders to serve on our judiciary, while ensuring that women and minorities are significantly represented," Glendening said in a news release issued by his office yesterday.

Carrion, 41, of Puerto Rican ancestry, became Maryland's first Hispanic judge when Glendening appointed her to the District Court for Baltimore City in 1995, according to his office's news release, and she is the first Hispanic appointed to any circuit court in the state. From 1990 to 1995, she was an assistant Maryland attorney general, in the Correctional Litigation Division.

"I'm thrilled for her, but it's going to be a loss for us," said Baltimore City District Court Administrative Judge Keith E. Matthews. "She'll be missed here,

but she'll do well at the circuit court — and has the ability to go even higher."

Carrion, on holiday in Miami, could not be reached for comment.

Allison, 48, an expert in environmental law and assistant U.S. attorney since 1991, has been chief of the Civil and Financial Litigation Unit in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland for the last five years. She said she was thrilled at her appointment to the bench.

"I had been seriously thinking about it and planning it for a couple of years. I am mindful of the significant impact

that a judge can have on people's lives and I will remain mindful of that," Allison said.

"I am looking forward to serving with judges on that bench. I think there's a tremendous amount of energy there," she added, referring to the work that has gone into reforming the system, "and I am looking forward to being able to help out."

Allison, replacing Angeletti, said she had not yet worked out when she will take the bench.

"It's wonderful," said U.S. Attorney Lynne A. Battaglia. "It's an honor to Kaye to have made the list, and an hon-

or to her to have been appointed, on her first try." Battaglia added that the distinction conferred on her civil division chief reflected well on the U.S. Attorney's Office as a whole.

Noel, 51, has been on the Baltimore City circuit bench for 16 years. If re-elected by voters next year, his term will extend until he is eligible for re-election in 2014.

Angeletti, who will retire a week from tomorrow, will assume duties as senior judge at the end of next month. As senior judges, Angeletti and Richard T. Rombro will alternate months working through the asbestos docket.