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## Columbus City Attorney Klein Commends Sens. Portman, Brown for Empaneling Bipartisan Judicial Commission

*More than a dozen attorneys from public and private sectors named to judicial advisory panel, including senior assistant city attorney from City of Columbus*

**COLUMBUS, OH**—Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein expressed his appreciation to U.S. Senators Rob Portman (R-OH) and Sherrod Brown (D-OH) after they jointly announced members of the bipartisan judicial advisory commission that will assist them in identifying the best candidates to fill a vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. The Southern District has court locations in Cincinnati, Columbus, and Dayton and serves more than five million Ohioans in 48 counties.

Among the commission members is Susan Thompson, a senior assistant city attorney in the Columbus City Attorney's office.

**“I want to express my sincere appreciation to Senators Portman and Brown for empaneling this important advisory commission and emphasizing bipartisanship, diversity and varying legal experience from both the public and private sector,” said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein. “Susan Thompson is an excellent attorney whose background, experience and expertise will be undoubtedly valuable when screening potential jurists for the federal bench.”**

Thompson is a graduate of York University in Toronto and Capital University Law School in Columbus, Ohio. She has served in the Columbus City Attorney's office since 2001, first as an assistant city prosecutor in the environmental and criminal divisions. She has specialized in labor and employment law in the Columbus City Attorney's civil division since 2007.

According to the Senators' joint press release:

The bipartisan advisory commission process was first established by Senator Brown and former U.S. Senator George Voinovich (R-OH), and Portman and Brown have carried on the tradition. The senators are confident that the commissioners they are announcing today will provide informed and constructive counsel in choosing Ohio's federal judges.

The President of the United States nominates U.S. district court judges taking into account recommendations from U.S. senators. Nominees must then be confirmed by the full U.S. Senate. Federal district courts are general trial courts that hear both civil and criminal cases.