Supreme Court of Florida

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Ricky Polston Named Chief Justice-Elect of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Supreme Court today unanimously elected Ricky Polston – a man whose roots lie in the Panhandle town of Graceville – to become the state’s 55th Chief Justice starting July 1, 2012.

Polston will become only the second Chief Justice from Jackson County and the first to come from west of the Apalachicola River since 1925.

“I am deeply honored by my colleagues’ vote,” said Polston, 56. “And I commit myself to be a faithful steward of this public trust, recognizing that I am a servant to the people of Florida, to the constitution, and to the laws of the land.”

Polston served as a Judge of the First District Court of Appeal from January 2001 until October 2008, when he left to join the Supreme Court. He received his law degree with high honors from Florida State University in 1986 and also attended FSU as an undergraduate.

With his wife Deborah Ehler Polston, he has been a vocal advocate for children’s causes, especially in promoting the adoption of children from the foster care system. He and his wife raised four children of their own before adopting a sibling set of six brothers.

Justice Polston will serve a two-year term and will succeed the current Chief Justice, Charles T. Canady. Polston’s web biography is at:

http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/justices/polston.shtml

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