



## **Legal Beat**

### **News and Notes on the D.C. Bar Legal Community**

By Kathryn Alfisi and Thai Phi Le

**March 2011**

#### **Raffinan Sworn in as D.C. Superior Court Judge**

Maribeth Raffinan was sworn in January 7 as associate judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia by Chief Judge Lee F. Satterfield in a ceremony at the H. Carl Moultrie Courthouse.

Raffinan was nominated by President Barack Obama in July 2010 and confirmed by the Senate in September. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Raffinan worked as a staff attorney with the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS) for 11 years, acting as supervising attorney from 2006 to 2010.

In addition to her regular duties at PDS, Raffinan was cochair of the 2006 Deborah T. Creek Criminal Practice Institute, served on the Superior Court's Drug Court Committee, performed trainings for Criminal Justice Act panel attorneys, led trial practice groups, and served as a rotating attorney with the Special Litigation Division.

From 1996 to 1999, Raffinan worked with the Federal Public Defender for the District of Columbia as a research and writing specialist. She is a member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association and the Philippine American Bar Association.

Raffinan is a graduate of Boston College and The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law.—K.A.