

MEDIA ADVISORY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

For Immediate Release - May 8, 2013
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MEMORIAL CEREMONY PLANNED FOR JUDGE GLEN WILLIAMS

A public memorial ceremony will be held at the federal courthouse in **Big Stone Gap**, Virginia, on **May 13, 2013**, beginning at **2:30 P.M.**, to honor the late Judge Glen M. Williams of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia. Judge Williams passed away on November 4, 2012, at age 92. The court proceedings will celebrate the judicial service of Judge Williams, who retired in 2010 after 47 years with the federal court system.

The public is invited to attend the ceremony.

Judge Williams began his tenure on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia in 1963, with his appointment as a part-time U.S. Commissioner. In 1976, President Gerald Ford appointed him as U.S. District Judge. In 1988, Judge Williams elected senior status as a judge, but continued with an active trial docket.

Judge Williams served as a decorated naval officer in World War II, with duty on minesweepers in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Mediterranean theaters of war. He participated in the Allied invasion of Southern France in 1944 and commanded the U.S.S. Seer in the Pacific until 1946. After the war, he practiced law in Jonesville, Virginia, and became one of the leading trial lawyers in Virginia. During his career as a lawyer, he also served as Commonwealth's Attorney for Lee County and in the Virginia State Senate.

Among Judge Williams' many accomplishments was the reopening of the federal courthouse in Big Stone Gap, to better serve that portion of the judicial district.