



**THE HONORABLE
JUDGE MILDRED METHVIN**
U.S. MAGISTRATE

United States Magistrate Judge Mildred Methvin

by Sr. Agent Donnie Bozeman

United States Magistrate Judge Mildred Ellen Methvin grew up on the Cane River near Alexandria where she enjoyed the outdoors. She graduated from Menard Central High School in the top 4 percent of her class and went on to Newcomb College, where she attained a B.A. in philosophy. During her senior year, she also attended Tulane University Law School and was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa honorary society.

Methvin completed her legal education at Georgetown University Law Center, earning a J.D. degree. Following law school, she joined her father's firm in Alexandria. Later Methvin served as an assistant U.S. attorney in Shreveport, La., and as a staff attorney for the U.S. Department of the Interior in Charleston, W.Va.

Methvin has been actively involved with the American Inns of Court movement since 1989, serving as organizational chair of both Lafayette's Inns: the American Inn of Court of Acadiana and the John M. Duhe Jr.

American Inn of Court.

In 1997, U.S. Chief Justice William Rehnquist appointed Methvin as one of three magistrate judges nationwide to serve on the Judicial Conference Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judge System. She served as the co-chair of the LSBA Federal Court Bench-Bar Liaison Committee for the Western District of Louisiana from 1993-94.

Methvin has been a guest speaker for the Lafayette Parish Bar Association, Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Young Lawyers Council Louisiana Bar Association, Acadiana Association of Women Attorneys, Paralegal Classes at the University of Southwestern Louisiana and Acadiana Association of Women Business Owners.

She is married with two children and three stepchildren. Methvin holds a second-degree black belt in American Shotokan Karate and also teaches kickboxing at Acadia Karate Institute. She also is a painter and a genealogist.

During Judge Methvin's term, she has been a firm

supporter of wildlife agents and the wildlife and fisheries laws that we enforce. She makes it clear in her courtroom that everyone will treat agents with the respect that we deserve. Fines have reached new heights, thanks to her efforts to hold wildlife lawbreakers accountable. As a result, she says she has seen a dramatic decline in the number of serious wildlife offenders brought before her. Methvin believes that the stiff fines she imposes are an effective crime deterrent.

It is a pleasure to appear in Methvin's court and see justice carried out and the state's natural resources protected. However, the judge reports that she is now making plans to retire in June 2007. Until then, wildlife agents and the public will continue to benefit from her courtroom decisions and, of course, the agents within our association will be the first to wish Judge Methvin a long and prosperous retirement. 🐾