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## **Governor Appoints Robert D. Rinfret to Holmes County Common Pleas Court**

**Columbus, Ohio** – Ohio Governor Ted Strickland today announced the appointment of Robert D. Rinfret to the Holmes County Common Pleas Court.

Robert D. Rinfret, 63, of Millersburg, fills the seat vacated by the retirement of Judge Thomas White.

“Robert brings to the bench a notable legal career and a deep commitment to serving his community,” Strickland said. “The high standard of professionalism he has demonstrated while serving in the Holmes County Prosecutor’s Office and as a private practitioner will be a great asset to his judicial service.”

Rinfret will take the bench on February 15. To retain the seat, he must run in the November 2010 general election.

Rinfret has served as the assistant prosecutor for the Holmes County Prosecutor’s Office since 2004 and as a private-practicing attorney for Rinfret Law Office since 1973. He previously served as the prosecuting attorney for Holmes County from 1984-2004, and as a professor of law at the University of Akron, Wayne College Branch.

Rinfret is also an active member of his community. He currently serves as a volunteer coach for the West Holmes High School track team and is a founding member of the Holmes County Junior Olympic Track Club. Rinfret has also been involved in the Holmes County Rail to Trails Coalition, is a former Holmes County Park District board member, a Holmes County volunteer basketball coach for East and West Holmes elementary school districts, and is a former advisor for the Holmes County Mock Trial Teams.

“I am humbled and honored by this appointment. I’m thankful to Governor Strickland for this opportunity and look forward to continue serving Holmes County with vigor and compassion.”

Rinfret received a bachelor's degree from Bethany College in 1969 and a law degree from the Ohio State University in 1972. He is married to West Holmes Middle School teacher Rosanne Parrot-Rinfret and has three daughters.