



Retired Bossier-Webster District Judge Cecil Campbell (left) swears in newly elected judge Mike Craig at a swearing-in ceremony Monday at the Bossier Parish Courthouse in Benton. Holding the Bible for Craig is his daughter Hannah. The ceremony drew a packed police jury room filled with hundreds of guests including local judges, Sheriff Larry Deen, Sheriff Gary Sexton, City Marshal Johnny Wyatt, scores of attorneys, prosecutors, deputy sheriffs and many other friends and family members. Photo by Danny Lawler.

New Bossier-Webster judge sworn in

The parishes of Bossier and Webster have a new district judge that was officially sworn in Monday at a packed Bossier Parish Police Jury room at the Bossier Courthouse.

Judge Mike Craig was sworn in by retired Judge Cecil Campbell in front of hundreds of spectators that were apparently invited guests at the ceremony.

Craig, a former Bossier-Webster Parish assistant district attorney, won in a heated election against incumbent Judge Dewey Burchett this past fall. At the ceremony, Bossier-Webster District Attorney Schuyler Marvin thanked the crowd for attending Craig's ceremony.

Marvin said, "Today, Mike Craig starts a new career as a district judge for the 26th Judicial District. Public service is different than any other type of occupation. Elected officials are looked at and treated differently than other people. That is not to say that we are better than others, just looked at from a different perspective. Now, that was true even before we had the extensive ethics rules that were recently enacted by the Legislature. And why is that? Elected officials are held to a higher standard than others, as they should be. "So, Mike, everything that you have done up until this point in your life will largely be forgotten by the public. But everything you do from this point forward will almost certainly be remembered by the public forever.

"So I say all of that, not as a warning, but as a simple reminder that elected officials will be watched by the public. We have an awesome responsibility to the citizens of our district, and I have every confidence that the citizens of this district will forever be proud of you and the way your career is shaped from this point forward.

"So to Mike and your family, congratulations and my best wishes to you as you start this new journey. I hope that you will find it as rewarding as I have."