

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA**

**Laura A. Briggs, Clerk  
46 East Ohio Street, Room 105  
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

#### **Magna Carta Symposium and Continuing Legal Education Event Planned at Indiana State University for September 15, 2015**

Eight hundred years ago at Runnymede, along the banks of the Thames, King John affixed his seal to the Magna Carta. This historic event, and the impact the Magna Carta has had on the rule of law, is the foundation for an exciting legal seminar planned for 1:00-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 15, 2015, at Indiana State University.

The Magna Carta Room in Federal Hall on the ISU campus, which contains a large triptych mural depicting the signing of the Magna Carta, will appropriately serve as the location for the “Symposium on the Magna Carta and the Rule of Law.” The event is sponsored by the Historical Society of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, the Terre Haute Bar Association, the Indiana State Bar Association, and the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana. Loretta Rush, Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court, is among the notable speakers participating in this event.

Chief Justice Rush, Indiana’s first female chief justice, will offer her reflections on the Magna Carta and is expected to answer questions from the audience. Also participating in the symposium will be Frank Sullivan, Jr., a former member of the Indiana Supreme Court and now a professor at Indiana University’s Robert H. McKinney School of Law. Sullivan plans to travel this summer to Runnymede as part of the American Bar Association’s commemoration of the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Magna Carta, and he will share highlights of that event at the symposium.

Jon Laramore, Executive Director of Indiana Legal Services, will moderate a panel entitled “The Magna Carta and the Rule of Law Today” that will include Jane E. Magnus-Stinson, U.S. District Judge, Southern District of Indiana; Josh Minkler, U.S. Attorney, Southern District of Indiana; Lakshmi Reddy, Judge, Vigo Superior Court; and notable Terre Haute attorney Jessie Cook. Steven A. Stofferahn, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History, Indiana State University, will discuss myths and truths of the Magna Carta, and Doria Lynch, Court Historian for the Southern District of Indiana, will discuss the Magna Carta triptych and the history of the old federal courthouse in Terre Haute.

“This is going to be a dynamic symposium,” said U.S. Magistrate Judge Tim A. Baker, one of the symposium’s co-chairs. “We have assembled an amazing array of talented and interesting speakers who will share their considerable knowledge with the audience. I am very much looking forward to this event.” Baker noted that the seminar concludes with Chief Justice Rush’s remarks, followed by a reception at 4:30 p.m. for those in attendance.

Rounding out the program will be remarks by Indiana State University President Daniel J. Bradley; Indiana State Bar Association President Jeff R. Hawkins; Terre Haute Bar Association President Brittany Bennett; and Craig M. McKee, a Terre Haute attorney and part-time U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Southern District of Indiana.

The symposium organizers are applying for three hours of continuing legal education credit for the program. Seating for the symposium is limited. **Anyone interested in registering for the symposium may contact the Terre Haute Bar Association by emailing Brittany Bennett at [bebennett@first-online.com](mailto:bebennett@first-online.com).** The complete symposium agenda can be found on the website of the Southern District of Indiana at [www.insd.uscourts.gov](http://www.insd.uscourts.gov). For more information, contact Brittany Bennett or Doria Lynch at [Doria\\_Lynch@insd.uscourts.gov](mailto:Doria_Lynch@insd.uscourts.gov) or 317-229-3729.