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Detroit's Judge Wade Harper McCree to Address
IWU's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellowship Dinner

January 7, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.-On Sunday, Jan. 23, the Honorable Wade Harper McCree III, will be the guest speaker at Illinois Wesleyan's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Fellowship Dinner.

The dinner, co-sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan and the United Community Gospel Singers of Bloomington and Normal, will be held at 5 p.m. in the Main Lounge of Memorial Center, 104 University St., Bloomington.

Tickets for the dinner are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under 12 years of age, and \$6 for IWU students, and can be purchased through the Office of Multicultural Affairs, 200 Shaw Hall, 1308 Park St., Bloomington. The phone number for the office is (309) 556-3412.

On July 2, 2004, Judge Wade Harper McCree of the 36th District Court in Detroit was elevated to the Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm. He had served as judge in the 36th District Court since his appointment to the bench in 1996.

A graduate of Cass Technical High School, McCree received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Michigan in 1978 and his juris doctor degree from the Stanford Law School, California, in 1984. He returned to Michigan to serve in the City of Detroit Law Department until joining the largest minority-owned law firm in the State of Michigan, Lewis, White & Munday, P.C. in 1987.

McCree, who concluded his term as President of the Association of Black Judges of Michigan in June of 2002, continues to serve as director on the boards of several community organizations. He also is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

McCree is the son of the Honorable Wade McCree, Jr., who was the first African American appointed to the 3rd Circuit Court and the first African American appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan before becoming U.S. solicitor general under President Jimmy Carter (1977-81).

McCree is a devoted supporter of Detroit's prestigious Wade H. McCree, Jr. Incentive Scholarship Program, named after his father, which guarantees that talented minority high school students from Detroit will have the chance to attend college.

In 1994, Illinois Wesleyan became the first private college and the first campus outside of Michigan to join the scholarship program by pledging annually to fund the need of three graduates of Detroit's public high schools, who successfully complete the academic requirements of the program. Participating campuses mentor students from the 9th-12th grade, who are pre-assigned to them.

