



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 16, 2004

Contact: Duncan Woodford

Public Information Officer

(409) 839-2538

NEW FEDERAL PROSECUTOR IN PLANO

(Plano, Texas) U.S. Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today the appointment of **MICHELE RATCLIFFE** as an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) for the Eastern District of Texas. She will be one of nine attorneys serving in the Plano U.S. Attorney's Office and will handle a general criminal docket, with attention on cases involving injury and exploitation of children.

Ratcliffe joins the district after 13 years in private practice. She concentrated on civil cases involving medical malpractice, third party criminal liability, products liability accidents, and especially catastrophic personal injury of children. Over the course of her career Ratcliffe participated in medical malpractice cases resulting in multi-million dollar awards for children and/or their families who sustained catastrophic injuries including death, brain damage, amputations, and/or blindness. Her work led her to be routinely appointed by the Dallas District courts as a guardian ad litem for injured children.

U.S. Attorney Matt Orwig says Ratcliffe's addition to the office is a homerun for the Eastern District of Texas, "Michele Ratcliffe has demonstrated her superior legal abilities in the many cases she successfully pursued while in private practice. We are fortunate that she has decided to bring her expertise and commitment to justice to the U.S. Attorney's Office."

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Ratcliffe grew up in Detroit, Michigan. She graduated from Hillsdale College and earned her law degree from the Southern Methodist University School of Law in Dallas. She is married to John Ratcliffe and they have two daughters, Riley and Darby. **Ratcliffe says her daughters inspire her to seek justice, "Having two girls of my own has underscored the vulnerability of children and inspired me to protect the rights and safety of children."**

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