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**Statement of United States Attorney Booth Goodwin on the Passing
of U.S. Circuit Judge M. Blane Michael:**

“Judge Michael was one of the finest judges and finest men I have ever known. He graced the bench with wisdom, integrity, and devotion to justice seldom equaled in our country’s history. Though renowned throughout the American bar, Judge Michael always remained a proud son of Grant County, West Virginia; his profound decency and sincere warmth earned the respect and the deep affection of all who met him. With his passing, we have lost a giant of the law.

“My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Mary Anne and daughter Cora, whom he loved above all else.”

--U. S. Attorney Booth Goodwin