FALLS CHurch, Va. – The Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) announced today that beginning on Feb. 16, 2010, Immigration Judge Bette Kane Stockton will serve as the field Assistant Chief Immigration Judge (ACIJ) for the San Francisco, Calif., Portland, Ore., Seattle and Tacoma, Wash., and Denver, Colo., immigration courts. ACIJ Stephen S. Griswold is stepping down from that post to return to full-time work as a sitting immigration judge and to continue his work on EOIR’s Immigration Court Practice Manual; a comprehensive how-to guide for parties who present cases before the immigration courts.

As one of six ACIJs who serve in an immigration court, Judge Stockton will continue to preside over proceedings in the San Francisco Immigration Court and will carry out her supervisory responsibilities from there.

Appointed as an immigration judge in June 1990, Judge Stockton currently serves as an immigration judge in San Francisco. She received a bachelor of arts degree in 1966 from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a juris doctorate in 1977 from Glendale College of Law. From 1979 to 1990, Judge Stockton was both in private practice as a sole practitioner and with the law firm of Park & Litwin in San Francisco. From 1977 to 1978, she served as a deputy district attorney for the Kern County District Attorney’s Office in Bakersfield, Calif. She is a member of the State Bar of California.