Former Dean Dons Judge's Robes

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President Bush has nominated and the Senate has confirmed the appointment of Sheldon J. Plager, former dean of the IU School of Law, Bloomington, to a seat on the nine-judge U.S. Court of Appeals, federal circuit, Washington, D.C. Federal District Judge Sarah Evans Barker conducted the swearing-in ceremony in Bloomington in November.

Plager’s wife, Ilene H. Nagel, has been a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, a federal appellate-level judicial body, since 1985. They are the first husband and wife team to serve in the federal judiciary at the appellate level.

Plager became dean of the law school in 1977 and served during the school’s $12 million expansion and renovation in the early 1980s. While on leave from IU, he was administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the Office of Management and Budget under President Reagan. President Bush asked him to remain in the position.

Plager taught a seminar on administrative law on the Bloomington campus during the fall semester. Both he and Nagel plan to continue teaching at Bloomington on an adjunct basis.

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