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Chief deputy prosecutor seeks bench

By RICK LEE
For The Evening Sun

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His name has been bandied about before, any time there was an opening on the York County Common Pleas Court bench.

Monday, Chuck Patterson, chief deputy prosecutor for the York County District Attorney's Office, agreed it was time and formally announced his intent to run for judge. The city resident is the county's first black judicial candidate.

"I truly believe in public service," Patterson said. "I also believe if we are going to make a difference in the legal system, there are those of us who are going to have to be participants.

"The best means of maintaining an orderly society ... is in a highly developed legal system."

Gov. Ed Rendell signed a bill last year expanding the local court from 12 to 14 judges. The two new judgeships are up for election this year.

Patterson, 55, said he received "considerable encouragement from colleagues and community leaders" before announcing his election bid.

Patterson has 20 years of courtroom experience, the last 18 as a prosecutor in the district attorney's office. District Attorney Stan Rebert appointed Patterson as his chief deputy prosecutor of litigation in 1999.

Patterson also has run a limited civil law practice and is solicitor for the Southern York County police commission. He teaches law and paralegal classes here and in Baltimore.

"York Countians expect and deserve judicial candidates who offer a full range of legal experience, display judicial temperament and provide integrity, wisdom and knowledge to serve as judge on the York County Court of Common Pleas," Patterson said. "I humbly submit that I offer these qualifications along with an unwavering

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dedication to service in our community."

Patterson is a 1971 graduate of Oberlin College, where he received a bachelor's degree in government, and a 1976 graduate of Indiana University School of Law. He is widowed and the father of three sons.

Anyone interested in supporting the Chuck Patterson for Judge campaign can visit his campaign headquarters at 18 S. George St. or call 845-3328. [Susan Voyzey](#), a senior deputy administrator in the district attorney's office, is Patterson's campaign treasurer.

Patterson's opponents in the 2005 judicial race include Joe Adams, a former assistant district attorney, and attorneys Maria Musti Cook and Kathleen Prendergast.

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