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NEWS RELEASE

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Governor Accepts Resignation of Justice Handler

NJ Gov. Christie Whitman today accepted the resignation of Alan B. Handler as Associate Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court.

"Justice Handler has served the people of New Jersey with great distinction. For more than two decades he has been at the forefront of some of the most vexing issues to confront our state," she said.

"Justice Handler's tenure on the court has included landmark decisions with regard to the death penalty, education funding and parental rights. His work was distinguished for its insight, wisdom and analysis," Gov. Whitman said.

"His professional abilities and his personal wit have left an indelible mark on the Court," she said.

Whitman indicated that she would name a replacement for Justice Handler in the very near future. The Governor has been considering candidates to fill upcoming vacancies in the Court since the beginning of her second term.