Dean Logan's Blog: United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and RWU

Roger Williams University School of Law

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The dozen federal Courts of Appeal are a step below the Supreme Court of the United States, and Roger Williams Law has a close relationship with the First Circuit, the highest court in New England. We are especially proud of our affiliation with one of the best-known and respected appellate judges in the country, Judge Bruce Selya. Judge Selya teaches a very popular course, “The Lessons of Litigation,” regularly has our top students extern in his chambers, and is an important leader on the School of Law Board of Directors.

We also have an excellent relationship with the newest member of the court, The Honorable Roferiee Thompson, who moved from the Rhode Island Superior Court to the First Circuit last spring, after being unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate. In recognition of her excellent service for two decades on the state bench, Roger Williams awarded Judge Thompson a Doctor of Laws degree shortly after her ascension to the federal court. Judge Thompson has worked with our Multicultural Law Students Association Mentor Program, has for more than a decade sponsored our students as judicial externs, and hired two of our terrific ’08 graduates for her first team of law clerks. Angie Cooper and Max Green are enjoying one of the most amazing post-graduate opportunities available, a coveted clerkship for a top federal judge. Congratulations Max and Angie!