

**Media Contact:**

Eileen Stein, City Manager
541-323-5205

Sisters, OR

Date: January 20, 2012

Mediator-Facilitator to Work with Sisters City Council-City Manager

The City of Sisters has engaged Senior Judge Paul Lipscomb to work with the Sisters City Council and City Manager to resolve issues that gave rise to the City Council's recent consideration of a motion to terminate the City Manager's contract. Judge Lipscomb stepped forward at the City Council's January 19th workshop to volunteer his services.

Judge Lipscomb is currently engaged as a Mediation, Arbitration and Reference Judge in Deschutes County and throughout the State of Oregon. He has been self-employed in this capacity since his retirement from the bench in June, 2008. Judge Lipscomb also currently serves as the Executive Director of the Marion County Association of Defenders, Ltd., a consortium of 42 lawyers doing indigent defense work in the Marion County Circuit Court. In this effort he initiated and facilitated three board retreats, produced the organization's first business plan, vision statement and job description for its executive director, and conducted the first annual performance evaluation for the executive director.

Judge Lipscomb was previously the Presiding Judge of the Marion County Circuit Court, a position he held continuously since 1994. Judge Lipscomb was a trial court judge for 22 years, having first been elected in 1986. As Presiding Judge, Judge Lipscomb was responsible for the entire operation of the Marion County Circuit Court, including administering an annual budget in excess of \$10 million, managing independently elected judges and their calendars, coordinating the Court's relationship with the Marion County Commissioners, the Oregon State Legislature, the City of Salem, and supervising over 100 staff members.

Recently, Paul and Donna built a home just outside Sisters, Oregon, where they now have the very special pleasure of enjoying three young grandchildren who come to visit often.