

# SUPREME COURT

## THE JUDICIARY

### REPUBLIC OF PALAU

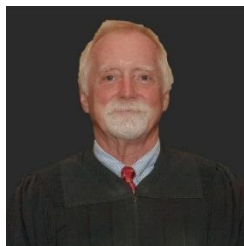
P.O. Box 248 Koror, Palau 96940  
Telephone: Koror : (680) 488-2607/4979/3331 or  
Capitol: (680) 767-2330/2482/2607  
Facsimile: Koror (680) 488-1597 or  
Capitol: (680) 767-2606  
E-mail address: [judiciary@palausupremecourt.net](mailto:judiciary@palausupremecourt.net)

#### **PRESS RELEASE # 154**

#### **November 17, 2022**

*(It is our duty at the Judiciary to inform the people what we do.  
This Press Release is one way to achieve that responsibility.)*

On October 27, 2022, Fred Mitchell Isaacs was administered the oath of office as an Associate Justice of the Appellate Division followed by G. Midth Bells as the Senior Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.



Justice Isaacs previously served for three years (2019 - 2022) as the Dean of the School of Law at KIMEP University in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Prior to joining KIMEP, Fred was for 18 years (2000 – 2018) a law professor in the School of Business at Marylhurst University in the United States where he also held various administrative positions (e.g., Chair of the Graduate College, Director of Graduate Programs).

Justice Isaacs was born in Indianapolis, Indiana and grew up on the Purdue University campus. After completing his military service during the Vietnam War (US Army Security Agency, a special branch of Military Intelligence), Fred earned a BA *summa cum laude* in History, with minors in English Literature, French and Latin. Fred then did post-graduate work in Latin before going on to law school at the University of Notre Dame, where he earned his Juris Doctor (JD). A member of numerous state and federal bars, including the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States, Fred was for 13 years a senior law clerk for four federal judges (three Senior Judges on the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and a Chief District Judge in the US Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit), a commercial litigation associate at two large law firms, the senior appellate counsel at a boutique federal appellate consulting firm, and for more than a decade owned his own federal appellate consulting practice. Fred and his wife, Nancy, have been married for 50 years and have three grown children and eight grandchildren.



At the time of her appointment, Senior Judge G. Midth Bells was an Assistant Special Prosecutor with the Palau Office of the Special Prosecutor focusing on criminal cases involving public officials. Prior to serving as Assistant Special Prosecutor, Midth was an Assistant Attorney General with the Palau Office of the Attorney General from January 2020 to July 2021, in the civil division.

Midth was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and as a military dependent spent ten years living in different places before returning home. Midth attended Maris Stella Elementary School and graduated from Mindszenty High School. Midth earned a Bachelors of Science in Biology *cum laude* from Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. After which she returned home and worked with the Palau Environmental Quality Protection Board for nearly five years, then as a private consultant before deciding to go to law school. Midth earned her Juris Doctor (JD) from Pace University School of Law, now Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University.

Midth is admitted to practice in New York State, and took her oath in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York, First Judicial Department. In New York she worked for various private law firms as well as a not-for-profit organization representing clients in housing court.