

JUDGE PAULA A. PATRICK

Biography

Judge Paula Patrick is a presiding judge in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She was elected in November 2003 to the Court of Common Pleas and has served nearly two decades in the largest court system in the State. Judge Patrick has served in the juvenile, family, criminal, and civil divisions of the Court. She has adjudicated more than 20,000 cases in her career and has written more than 600 opinions to the three Pennsylvania appellate courts.

Judge Patrick is currently assigned to the Civil Motions Program as Judicial Team Leader where she oversees, supervises and manages a caseload of over 2,000 matters annually. She has proven expertise in case management and administration with a high-volume caseload. Judge Patrick is known for her judicial efficiency and her ability to meet challenges head on, resolve complex problems, and adapt quickly to changing priorities. She is a strong leader who works well under pressure and exudes positivity. She is well respected by both her peers on the bench and attorneys who come before her. In 2015, Judge Patrick was also appointed City Commissioner for one year to oversee and manage Philadelphia elections.

In her judicial career, Judge Patrick has been a member of many professional, civic and charitable organizations, including the Federalist Society. She participates on state and national committees dedicated to professional development of members of the bench.

Prior to her election, Judge Patrick was a solo practitioner for almost ten years with a general litigation practice in the areas of personal injury, worker's compensation, family law, criminal defense and municipal bond finance. She also served for two years as adjunct faculty of the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice at LaSalle University. While there, she taught undergraduate courses in criminal law and the court system. During her tenure as an attorney and college instructor, Judge Patrick received countless awards and honors from professional, civic, religious and social groups.

Judge Patrick is a native North Carolinian having graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.A. in Political Science from Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, North Carolina. She also graduated from the Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law receiving her Juris Doctorate.

Judge Patrick is passionate about the rule of law with a commitment to obeying and defending both the Constitution of the United States and Pennsylvania. She refuses to legislate from the bench and is committed to utilizing skills to help others while working to bring justice to all citizens of the Commonwealth with the highest integrity.

Judge Patrick is the mother of one son and is an active participant in her church and the community.