

**THE HONORABLE JOHN W. KERN, III**  
**SENIOR JUDGE**  
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS**

Judge John W. Kern, III was appointed to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in 1968 by President Lyndon B. Johnson. He assumed Senior Judge status in 1984.

Judge Kern was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University and received his law degree from Harvard University.

Following law school, Judge Kern clerked for the late Harold M. Stephens, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and then served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. He practiced law in the District of Columbia with the then-law firm of Kilpatrick, Ballard & Beasley before joining the United States Justice Department in 1965, where he served in the Criminal Division and then in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General.

After assuming Senior Judge status, Judge Kern served as the Dean of the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada for three years. He returned to the Court of Appeals in 1987, where he has served continuously since that time. He remains interested in continuing judicial education and chairs the Annual Harold R. Medina Seminar for State and Federal Judges on the Humanities and Science at Princeton University.

Judge Kern lives in Arlington, Virginia with his wife, Margaret. They have five children and eight grandchildren.