

THE HONORABLE PHYLLIS D. THOMPSON
ASSOCIATE JUDGE
D.C. COURT OF APPEALS

Judge Phyllis D. Thompson was appointed to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals in 2006 by President George W. Bush.

Judge Thompson was born and raised in the District of Columbia. She earned her B.A. in Anthropology (With Distinction) from The George Washington University in 1974, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa during her junior year and was valedictorian of her graduating class. She received her Master's Degree in Religion from Princeton University in 1976, with a concentration in ethics. In 1981, she received her law degree with High Honors from the National Law Center of The George Washington University. She was elected to Order of the Coif and was Notes Editor of the *George Washington Law Review*.

During the 1977-78 school year, Judge Thompson was a full-time instructor in the Department of Theology at Georgetown University, where she also taught part-time while in law school. After law school, she joined the law firm of Covington & Burling, where she became a partner (the first African-American woman partner) in 1989 and where she practiced until 2006, representing numerous state and local health and welfare agencies and regularly handling appellate-type litigation before federal and state administrative agencies and courts. She also handled a variety of *pro bono* matters. During 1984, she worked as a staff attorney at the Neighborhood Legal Services Program, on loan from Covington & Burling. During that rotation, she appeared frequently in the Landlord Tenant Branch of the D.C. Superior Court and argued in the D.C. Court of Appeals.

Judge Thompson served two terms on the D.C. Bar Board of Governors, from 1998 to 2004. She was a member of the Steering Committee of the D.C. Bar District of Columbia Affairs section. She also co-chaired the D.C. Bar Public Service Activities Corporation Landlord-Tenant Task Force, which was named "Best Bar Committee" in 1999. From 2001 to 2004, Judge Thompson was a legal member of the D.C. Board of Appeals and Review, where she conducted *de novo* hearings in licensing cases and authored numerous written decisions in civil infraction, licensing, certificate-of-need and other types of appeals. From 2003 to 2006, Judge Thompson served as Vice-Chair of the D.C. Court of Appeals Committee on Admissions. Judge Thompson is a former board member of the D.C. Circuit Historical Society and in 2000-01 chaired the Society's high school outreach program as part of the celebration of the bicentennial of the D.C. courts. Judge Thompson also served on the Board of Directors of the Council for Court Excellence and has served on the boards of many other non-profit organizations in the District.

Judge Thompson is married and is the mother of two daughters. She resides in the Brookland neighborhood in Northeast Washington, D.C.