

THE HONORABLE CHERYL M. LONG
SENIOR JUDGE
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

President Ronald Reagan nominated Cheryl M. Long to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in November, 1987, and she was sworn in on May 26, 1988. She commenced Senior Judge status in December, 2009 and works primarily in the Probate Division and the statutory courts. During her judicial career, Judge Long has served in every division of the Superior Court and has sat by designation on several panels of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. She is one of the few judges who have presided over all three of the most complex and challenging trial assignments on the Court: Civil I, Domestic Relations I, and Felony I. She has published opinions on a broad range of issues, as both a trial judge and appellate judge.

Her leadership on the Court has included service as the Presiding Judge of the Probate Division, Presiding Judge of the Tax Division, Chair of the Rules Advisory Committees for both Probate and Tax, Chair of the Interpreters Committee, organizing court participation on various Bar Association projects, and presenter of training programs for other judges.

Judge Long grew up in the District of Columbia and attended the public schools: Bunker Hill Elementary School, Taft and Backus Junior High Schools, and Coolidge High School. She earned her undergraduate and law degrees from Georgetown University and was the first black woman to graduate from the prestigious Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown.

Upon graduation from law school in 1974, Judge Long clerked for the Hon. Spottswood W. Robinson, III on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. From 1975 to 1982, she served as an Assistant United States Attorney, prosecuting both local and federal criminal cases and representing federal agencies as defendants in civil litigation in the United States District Court.

From 1982 to 1985, Judge Long worked as a trial attorney in the Division of Land and Natural Resources at the Department of Justice. She prosecuted white-collar criminal cases nation-wide, based upon violations of federal environmental statutes. She also handled civil enforcement cases under the Superfund law, Clean Water Act, and other environmental laws.

In the spring of 1985, the Board of Trustees of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia selected Judge Long to serve as the Director of that agency. Upon her appointment, she became the first black woman to head a public defender staff in any major American jurisdiction. In 1986, the judges of the United States District Court of the District of

Columbia appointed her to their Committee on Grievances, the entity that investigates ethical misconduct of attorneys who practice before that Court.

Throughout her career, Judge Long has worked in local and national bar associations, as well as non-legal service organizations. She is a Life Member of the Washington Bar Association and the National Association of Women Judges. Judge Long also is now a member *emerita* of the Georgetown Law Center's Board of Visitors, having been a charter member. The citizens of the District, such as the D.C. Coalition for the Homeless, have honored Judge Long for her community service. Judge Long remains active with the Women's Committee of Washington Performing Arts, as well as the African-American/Jewish youth education program of Operation Understanding, D.C.