THE HONORABLE HEIDI M. PASICHOW ASSOCIATE JUDGE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Heidi M. Pasichow was nominated by President George W. Bush to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on January 9, 2007. Her nomination was confirmed by the United States Senate on August 1, 2008. On August 25, 2023, Judge Pasichow was reappointed for a second 15-year term.

Judge Pasichow is currently, in 2024, presiding over felony motions and jury trials while assigned to the Criminal Division. She began her career in the courthouse as a Judicial Clerk to the Honorable Superior Court Judge of the District of Columbia Sylvia Bacon.

Judge Pasichow graduated from the George Washington University with Distinction and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She received her degree of Juris Doctor as a part-time evening student from the Washington College of Law, The American University. During her appointment as Associate Judge, Judge Pasichow has presided over a wide range of cases, including criminal, civil, domestic violence, domestic relations, and mental health cases, while assigned to the Criminal Division, Civil Division, Domestic Violence Division, Family Court, and Mental Health Court. While in Family Court, cases included juvenile cases, truancy, and persons in need of supervision (PINS) matters, runaway cases involving minors and their adult guardians. Mental Health Court cases were selected adult criminal cases certified for mental health diversion. In addition, Judge Pasichow has served on several committees of the DC Courts: Domestic Violence Rules Advisory, Security, Jury Management, Family Court Juvenile Subcommittee, Mental Health Community Court, Pretrial Mental Examination and Urgent Care Clinic, Selection and Tenure of Magistrate Judges, Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Vouchers, CJA Investigators, Public Education & Court Independence.

Prior to her position as Associate Judge, beginning in 1986 Judge Pasichow served for over twenty-two years as Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) for the District of Columbia. She began her career as AUSA in the Appellate Division, and mid-career was in the Federal Division's Transnational Major Crimes Section and the Federal Major Crimes Section. In various management roles in the Superior Court side, Judge Pasichow was Chief of the Violent Crime Section, Deputy Chief of the Homicide Section, District Chief of the Community Prosecution-Major Crimes Section (Second and Fourth Police Districts), and Special Counsel for Professional Development in the Superior Court Division. In those roles, she managed line prosecutors and their caseloads, worked to advance that Office's presence in and participation with community crime-solving efforts, assisted with the professional development and advocacy skills of prosecutors practicing before the D.C. Superior Court, and instructed Assistant United States Attorneys across the country in areas of trial advocacy, criminal procedure, and evidence, at the United States Department of Justice's National Advocacy Center.

Earlier in her career, Judge Pasichow served as Attorney Advisor to the Benefits Review Board at the United States Department of Labor, as Law Clerk in the Office of Civil Rights at the United States Department of Commerce, as Legislative Correspondent to United States Representative Timothy Wirth, as Research Assistant at The Brookings Institution, and as Research Assistant at the Center for National Security Studies. Judge Pasichow has been an active and forceful participant, contributor, and leader in a variety of roles outside of her official court responsibilities. Judge Pasichow is currently an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University Law School. She has recently been an Adjunct Professor at The Washington College of Law, The American University, instructing an evening Trial Advocacy course at each law school.

She has been an active faculty member with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA). Since 1998, she has taught the District of Columbia Basic Trial Advocacy Program. She was Co-Director of NITA's District of Columbia Next-Level Trial Advocacy Program. Judge Pasichow was honored with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy's Justin D. Simon Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Her community service and extra-judicial activities include judging numerous area law school and national mock trial competitions. She also participates in high school mock trials through Georgetown University's Street Law Clinic. Judge Pasichow has been actively involved in the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ), where she has held several board and executive positions at the local and national levels.

In June 2022, Judge Pasichow began her term on the Executive Committee of the Council for Court Excellence (CCE) in Washington, D.C. She is a member of the Bryant American Inn of Court in Washington, D.C. The Inns of Court are "founded and dedicated to promoting the highest levels of professionalism in the practice of law."