

THE HONORABLE ROBERT R. RIGSBY
ASSOCIATE JUDGE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SUPERIOR COURT

On March 4, 2002, Robert R. Rigsby was nominated by President George W. Bush to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Superior Court. The United States Senate unanimously confirmed Judge Rigsby on July 25, 2002. Since his confirmation Judge Rigsby has presided over cases in the Criminal Division, the Domestic Violence Division, the Family Court Division, the Civil Division and the East of the River Community Court. He is currently in his second fifteen-year term on the court, having been reappointed May 24, 2017 following a unanimous “well-qualified” finding by the District of Columbia Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure.

Judge Rigsby served as the Attorney General for the District of Columbia from February 2000 until his confirmation. As the Attorney General, Judge Rigsby was responsible for conducting all legal business for the District. He oversaw 225 lawyers, 288 support staff, and was directly responsible for an annual operating budget of \$48 million.

Prior to his appointment as the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, Judge Rigsby served as Interim Attorney General for the District of Columbia, Acting Principal Deputy Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General in charge of the Enforcement Division and Deputy Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division. Before joining the Office of Attorney General for the District of Columbia in 1992, Judge Rigsby was an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Judge Rigsby served in the United States Army from 1981 to 2014. From 1987 to 1992, he served on active duty in the United States Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps as a prosecutor, defense attorney, administrative law attorney, international law attorney, law of war attorney, legal advisor to the Multinational Force and Observers, and Special Assistant United States Attorney for Tennessee and Kentucky. As a Judge Advocate, Judge Rigsby handled sensitive legal issues in Egypt, Israel, Korea, Japan, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. Judge Rigsby is a graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and was selected as an outstanding graduate of the United States Air Force Air War College. As an Army officer, Judge Rigsby has received numerous awards, decorations, and honors for outstanding trial work and acts of heroism and valor. In June 2003, the Judge Advocate General of the United States Army appointed Judge Rigsby as a Military Judge.

In 2009, Judge Rigsby made history by becoming the first sitting judge from the District of Columbia and the first military judge in the Army to deploy on a full-time basis to an active theatre of war. The Judge Advocate General of the United States Army selected Judge Rigsby to deploy as the sole military judge in Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Iraq. For his service, the Secretary of the Army awarded Judge Rigsby the Bronze Star Medal.

In 2010, the Judge Advocate General of the United States Army selected Judge Rigsby to be the Commander of the 150th Legal Support Organization and Chief Reserve Trial Judge. The 150th Legal Support Organization is the sole military judge’s unit in the United States Army Reserve.

In 2013, Judge Rigsby again made history by becoming the first sitting trial court judge and the first United States Army Judge selected by the Department of Defense and the Department of State to instruct judges in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In May of 2014, Judge Rigsby retired from the United States Army after 33 years of service. Colonel Rigsby's awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, the Iraq Campaign Medal (with Campaign Star Medal), the Afghanistan Campaign Medal (with Campaign Star), the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Overseas Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (with three Oak Leaf Clusters), the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Multinational Force and Observer Ribbon, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the NATO Medal, the Air Assault Badge, and the Airborne Badge.

In 2015, the National Center for State Courts selected Judge Rigsby to train judges throughout the world. In 2015 and 2016, Judge Rigsby traveled to Kingston Jamaica, Montego Bay Jamaica, Grenada, Nassau Bahamas, St. Kitts, and Barbados training Magistrate Judges, Trial Court Judges and Appellate Judges on topics ranging from preparing and delivering Oral Judgments, to case management techniques.

In 2015, Judge Rigsby was selected to be a keynote speaker for the 64th Annual National Day of Prayer. This event held annually on Capitol Hill was broadcast live to 90 countries with a viewing audience of over 600,000 people. In 2016, Judge Rigsby was selected to be one of several speakers for the President's National Prayer Breakfast. This internationally televised program was Presidents Obama's final prayer breakfast. In 2017, Judge Rigsby was selected to be the keynote speaker for the 4th I Can, I Will 5th Education Opportunity Program (EOP) Dinner at San Jose State University.

Judge Rigsby is a member of the United States Supreme Court, the District of Columbia, and Hawaii bars. Judge Rigsby is also admitted to practice in the following courts: the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the Hawaii Supreme Court, and the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. He is also a member of the Washington Bar Association and National Bar Association's Judicial Council. In 2017, Judge Rigsby was elected by San Jose State University, his alma mater to serve on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. In 2016, Judge Rigsby was named Chair-Elect of the Judicial Council Division of the Washington Bar Association. In 2013, Judge Rigsby was inducted into the National Black Law Students Hall of Fame.

Judge Rigsby has served on a number of boards and commissions. Judge Rigsby served two terms as Chair of the Commission on the Selection and Tenure of Administrative Law Judges. The Commission has final authority to appoint, reappoint, discipline, and remove Administrative Law Judges in the District of Columbia. In 2016, Judge Rigsby was appointed chairman of the Board of Directors for the District of Columbia National Guard Youth Challenge Foundation. Judge Rigsby is on the Board of Directors of the Judge Advocates Association. In 2014, Judge Rigsby was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Continental of Omega Boys and Girls Club in his hometown of Vallejo, California. In 2015, Judge Rigsby was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Washington Healthcare, Justice and Economic Empowerment Coalition (WHJE²C). The WHJE²C, is organized to enhance the wellness of all Washington, DC communities and individuals by focusing on issues of health, justice and economic empowerment. As part of President William Jefferson Clinton's National Capital Revitalization and Self-Improvement Act, Judge Rigsby was selected to serve as one of nine commissioners to

recommend modifications to the District of Columbia's Sentencing Guidelines. Judge Rigsby was appointed by the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia to serve on the District Court's Committee on Grievances. He was appointed Chairman of the District of Columbia Legal Affairs Committee for the 1997 Presidential Inauguration. Judge Rigsby is a member of the Society of Attorney's General Emeritus.

Judge Rigsby is very active in the community. In 2009, Judge Rigsby was appointed as an executive board member of the National Capitol Area Council for the Boy Scouts of America. Judge Rigsby was a member of the District of Columbia Coalition Against Drugs and Violence. He serves as a mentor for the Youth Enhancement Project of Shiloh Baptist Church's Family Life Center in Washington, D.C., and was appointed to the Board of Directors for the Family Life Center in 1999. In 2013, Judge Rigsby was appointed to the Board of Directors for the National Collegiate Preparatory Public Charter High School. In 2012, Judge Rigsby was appointed to the Board of Directors for the Men of St. John's College High School. For two years, Judge Rigsby was the Chair of the Pastoral Principal Advisory Board at his son's former school, St. Ann's Academy. He was active in his son's Boy Scout troop and was a coach for his son's baseball team.

In December 2010, Judge Rigsby started the Law and Government Explorers Program for inner city school students in Washington, D.C. The mission of the "Law Camp" is to mentor and enrich the lives of inner city children. The "Law Camp" started with 1 school and 5 students and 3 mentors. Today the "Law Camp" has over 50 students in 7 schools and 25 mentors. A number of students are currently enrolled in colleges and universities throughout the country.

Judge Rigsby is a member of 100 Black Men of Greater Washington, D.C., Inc., the Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles Mystic Shrine of North and South America and Its Jurisdictions, Inc., the Prince Hall Affiliate of Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity Epsilon Boulé, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and the Pro Duffers Golf Club Washington DC Chapter. Judge Rigsby has also served as an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland, University College, Bowie State University, and the University of the District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law. Judge Rigsby serves as a member of the Parents Council for Elon University.

Judge Rigsby was born in San Francisco, California and raised in Vallejo, California. He received his law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. He received his Bachelor of Science degree with distinction from San Jose State University. At the end of his sophomore year of college, Judge Rigsby was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve. Judge Rigsby is married to the Honorable Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. Judge Rigsby and Chief Judge Blackburne-Rigsby are the proud parents of Julian Christopher Rigsby a college student.