

President Judge Kim Berkeley Clark Biography

Judge Kim Berkeley Clark currently serves as the President Judge of the 5th Judicial District of Pennsylvania (Allegheny County). She is the first African American to serve as President Judge in Allegheny County.

Judge Clark serves as a judge of the Family Division, where she primarily hears Juvenile Court cases. Judge Clark was appointed to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County by Governor Tom Ridge in March 1999. She was elected to a full ten-year term in November 1999. Judge Clark served as the Administrative Judge of the Family Division from January of 2006 to January 2009 and from 2012 January of 2017. Judge Clark is the first African American to be appointed as an Administrative Judge in Allegheny County. Prior to becoming the Administrative Judge of Family Division, Judge Clark served as the Supervising Judge of Juvenile Court.

Judge Clark currently serves as the Chairperson of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. From July 2015 to July 2016, Judge Clark served as President of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. In her capacity as a Juvenile and Family Court Judge, Judge Clark also serves as a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Juvenile Procedural Rules Committee; the Pennsylvania Interbranch Commission on Racial, Gender, and Ethnic Fairness; the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency—Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee; the Pennsylvania State Children's Roundtable (Chair of the Dependency Benchbook Committee); the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network (President-elect); and the American Bar Association Juvenile Justice Standards Task Force. Judge Clark previously served as a member the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Domestic Relations Procedural Rules Committee; the Pennsylvania Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network; Co-chair of the Fatherhood Engagement and Visitation Workgroups and Chair of the Dependent Children of Incarcerated Parents Workgroup for the Statewide Children's Roundtable; the State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision; the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board (Chair), and the Joint State Government Commission on Children of Incarcerated Parents.

Judge Clark is a member and Past President of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, where she currently serves as a member of the Juvenile and Family Law Sections, the Past Presidents Committee, and as a former member of the Education Committee. Judge Clark is a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA) and has served as the President (2006-2007), Secretary (1997-2003), and member of the Board of Governors (1996-2003) of the ACBA. She is the first judge and the first African American female to serve as President of the Allegheny County Bar Association. Judge Clark served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and as the Chair of the Board of Fellows for the National Center for Juvenile Justice.

Judge Clark is a member of the International Women's Forum (Western PA). She has served and currently serves as a board member of several non-profit organizations. She is the recipient of numerous awards including the 2007 African American Leadership Award for Excellence in Education given by Duquesne Light and WQED Multimedia and the Children's Hospital/UPMC Champion of Hope and Healing Award in 2007. In 2006 and 2008, the New Pittsburgh Courier named Judge Clark one of the 50 Women of Influence. In 2011, Judge Clark received the Wesley Spectrum Services Black History and Diversity Hero of the Year Award, the William H. Moore Award for Excellence from N.O.B.L.E., and

the Three Rivers Adoption Council Friend of Adoption Award. In 2012 Judge Clark received the Drum Major of Justice Award from the Homer S. Brown Division of the Allegheny County Bar Association and was recognized as a Woman of Distinction in Law from the Girl Scouts of Western Pa. Judge Clark also received the 2012 Judge Homer S. Brown Award from the Pittsburgh NAACP, the 2012 Phillip Werner Amram Award from the Allegheny County Bar Association, the Friend of Children Award from Macedonia F.A.C.E., the Achievement Award for Community Advocacy from the Iota Phi Foundation of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., the 2012 Pittsburgh Circle of Courage Award in Law from BCC Ministries, the 2012 Athena Award, the 2013 Susan B. Anthony Award from the Women's Bar Association of Western PA and the 2014 Chairman's Award from Small Seeds, Inc. In 2015, Judge Clark was honored as a Woman of Legacy in the PNC Legacy Project.

In November of 2017, Judge Clark received the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence. This award, presented annually by the National Center for State Courts, is one of the nation's highest judicial honors awarded to a state trial or appellate court judge.

In December of 2018, Judge Clark received the Ronald Brown Leadership Award from the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh.

In June of 2013, Judge Clark had the honor of moderating a panel discussion on the needs of caregivers of children of incarcerated parents at the White House.