

THE HONORABLE CHERYL M. LONG (RET.)

Cheryl M. Long was appointed to the Foreign Service Grievance Board in 2012. She is a retired judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, nominated by President Ronald Reagan in 1987 and serving from May 26, 1988 until her retirement in 2009. Judge Long tried cases in every division of the Superior Court: Criminal, Civil, Family, Probate, and Tax. She also has sat by designation several times on panels of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE: Judge Long served for several years in the dual roles of Presiding Judge of the Probate Division and the Tax Division. This involved adjudicating all types of fiduciary matters, determining the fair market value of commercial properties, and deciding unique questions of administrative law. In one of her several tours of duty in the Civil Division, Judge Long presided over one of the Civil I calendars, involving the most complex litigation of employment discrimination, asbestos claims, various commercial disputes, and professional malpractice cases. Her trial experience on the Civil II calendars included jury trials and non-jury trials regarding personal injury, breach of contract, demands for injunctive relief, and other types of lawsuits.

In 2009, Georgetown University honored Judge Long with the Paul R. Dean Award, for professional excellence in her public service career.

PRE-JUDICIAL LEGAL CAREER: From 1974 to 1975, Judge Long clerked for the Hon. Spottswood W. Robinson, III on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. She then served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, prosecuting cases in the federal and local courts through 1979. From 1980 to 1982, she was a trial attorney in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office, handling defense litigation on behalf of many federal agencies. Her civil trial experience included torts, contracts, injunctive relief, employment discrimination, and administrative law.

From 1982 to 1985, Judge Long diversified her experience as a trial lawyer in the Division of Land and Natural Resources at the United States Department of Justice. She pursued environmental enforcement suits under the Superfund law, the Clean Water Act, and related regulatory laws.

In 1985, the Board of Trustees of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia appointed Judge Long to be the agency's new Director. At that time, she became the first African-American woman to head a public defender office in any major American city. As the Director, Judge Long employed and managed 61 attorneys and a 62-person staff for client services and litigation support.

EDUCATION:

1971: B.S.F.S. degree Georgetown University School of Foreign Service

1974: J.D. degree, Georgetown University Law Center

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Member Emerita, Board of Visitors, Georgetown University Law Center

Member, American Bar Association – Dispute Resolution Section

Life Fellow, American Bar Association Foundation

Member, District of Columbia Bar (Judicial status)

Life Member, National Association of Women Judges

Mediator, The McCammon Group