



**BRIDGING THE GAVEL GAP:
A DIRECTORY OF
JUDGES AND COMMISSIONERS OF COLOR
IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
2017**

WASHINGTON STATE MINORITY AND JUSTICE COMMISSION
WORKFORCE DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Washington State Minority and Justice Commission (WSMJC) Mission Statement

WSMJC was created by an order of the Washington State Supreme Court to determine whether racial and ethnic bias exists in the courts of the State of Washington. To the extent that it exists, WSMJC is charged with taking creative steps to overcome it. To the extent that such bias does not exist, WSMJC is charged with taking creative steps to prevent it.

Workforce Diversity Committee Mission Statement

The mission of the Workforce Diversity Committee is to promote equal employment and to study and improve the conditions needed to increase the opportunities for racial, ethnic and other traditionally underrepresented minorities to be employed by and supported in the courts and their state administrative agencies, including judicial and non-judicial leadership positions.

Acknowledgements

WSMJC would like to thank the co-chairs of the Workforce Diversity Committee, The Honorable Bonnie J. Glenn and The Honorable Veronica Alicea-Galván for their leadership and commitment to this project; Carolyn Cole, WSMJC Court Program Analyst; and members of the Workforce Diversity Committee for their guidance and review of this project. Committee members include:

Professor Lorraine Bannai, Seattle University School of Law
The Honorable Johanna Bender, King County Superior Court
Lieutenant Adrian Diaz, Seattle Police Department
Michael Diaz, Esq., United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Washington
Karen Murray, Esq., King County Associated Counsel for the Accused Division
Benjamin Santos, Esq., King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

Website: [Washington State Minority and Justice Commission](#)
[Facebook](#)

For more information, please contact:

Carolyn Cole, J.D.
Washington State Minority and Justice Commission
Court Program Analyst
carolyn.cole@courts.wa.gov
(360) 704-5536

Dear Colleagues:

On October 4, 1990, the Supreme Court established the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission (WSMJC) to foster and support a fair and bias-free system of justice in the Washington State courts and judicial systems. To that end, WSMJC is charged (a) with identifying bias of racial, ethnic, national origin and similar nature that affects the quality of justice in Washington State courts and judicial systems, and (b) with taking affirmative steps to address, eliminate and prevent any reoccurrence of such bias.

WSMJC's Workforce Diversity Committee is charged, among other things, with developing resource materials that can be used to improve the conditions needed to develop and sustain a diverse workforce in the courts and their state administrative agencies, including judicial and non-judicial leadership positions.

Studies have shown that persons of color are underrepresented in the Washington State judiciary. A recently released "Gavel Gap Report" by the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy found that women of color in Washington comprise 15% of the general population, but only 4% of state court judges. Similarly, men of color comprise 16% of the general population, but only 6% of state court judges. The full report can be found [here](#).

The purpose of this directory is to identify and showcase our current judges and commissioners of color, helping them and those aspiring to become judicial officers build or sustain professional networks and supportive communities. This directory will also provide a resource for organizations to find speakers and presenters for various events and programs.

This directory does not prohibit the creation of other directories or other tools to build relationships within other groups or commissions of the Washington State Supreme Court.

We are grateful to all those who helped create this directory, including the judges, commissioners and others who participated in its development.

Should you have any questions about the directory, please contact Carolyn Cole, J.D., WSMJC Court Program Analyst, at (360) 704-5536 or carolyn.cole@courts.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Justice Charles Johnson

Co-chairs, Washington State Minority and Justice Commission



Justice Mary Yu

JURISDICTION

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FEDERAL



Chief Judge Ricardo S. Martinez

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington

ricardo_martinez@wawd.uscourts.gov

206-370-8880

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin



Judge Richard A. Jones

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington

206-370-8870

Race/Ethnicity: Black



Magistrate Judge Brian Tsuchida

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Salvador Mendoza, Jr.

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin

FEDERAL



Judge Christopher M. Alston

U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington

Chris_alston@wawb.uscourts.gov

Race/Ethnicity: Black

WASHINGTON TRIBAL COURTS



Judge Lisa L. Atkinson

Tribal Judge

425-778-2421

Race/Ethnicity: American Indian



Justice David C. Bonga

Colville Tribal Court of Appeals

dbonga@kalispe Tribe.com

509-789-7601

Race/Ethnicity: American Indian



Justice Lisa J. Dickinson

Northwest Intertribal Court System

lisa@dickinsonlawfirm.com

509-326-0636

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Roberta "Robbi" Ferron

Retired

rferron@comcast.net

360-715-9588

Race/Ethnicity: American Indian

WASHINGTON TRIBAL COURTS



Judge Andrea D. Howard-George

Colville Confederated Tribal Court

andrea.george@colvilletribes.com

509-634-2508

Race/Ethnicity: Other (Native American, Colville Tribe)



Justice Lauren King

Northwest Intertribal Court System

lauren.king@foster.com

206-447-6286

Race/Ethnicity: White and Native American

WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT



Justice Steven González

steve.gonzalez@courts.wa.gov

360-357-2030

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin



Justice Mary Yu

mary.yu@courts.wa.gov

360-357-2034

Race/Ethnicity: Asian/Latina/LGBTQ

WASHINGTON STATE COURT OF APPEALS



Judge Ronald E. Cox

Division I

ron.cox@courts.wa.gov

206-464-7654

Race/Ethnicity: Black



Commissioner Masako Kanazawa

Division I

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Linda CJ Lee

Division II

J_L.Lee@courts.wa.gov

253-593-5447

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Michael Spearman

Division I

judge.spearman@courts.wa.gov

206-464-6047

Race/Ethnicity: Black

WASHINGTON SUPERIOR, JUVENILE, DISTRICT & MUNICIPAL COURTS



Judge Alicia H. Nakata

Chelan County Superior Court

Alicia.Nakata@co.chelan.wa.us

509-667-6210

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Gregory M. Gonzales

Clark County Superior Court

Gregory.Gonzales@clark.wa.gov

360-397 2354

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin



Judge David G. Estudillo

Grant County Superior Court

destudillo@grantcountywa.gov

509- 754-2011

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin



Judge Veronica Alicea-Galván

King County Superior Court

veronica.galvan@kingcounty.gov

206-477-1453

Race/Ethnicity: Latina/Mexican-American/Chicana

WASHINGTON SUPERIOR, JUVENILE, DISTRICT & MUNICIPAL COURTS



Judge Marcine Anderson

Shoreline District Court—King County

marcine.anderson@kingcounty.gov

206-477-2711

Race/Ethnicity: Asian and White

Judge Monica J. Benton

King County Superior Court

Norm Maleng Regional Justice Center

206-477-1629

Race/Ethnicity: African American



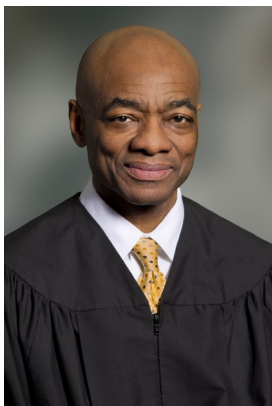
Judge Nicole Gaines Phelps

King County Superior Court

nicole.phelps@kingcounty.gov

206-477-1411

Race/Ethnicity: Black



Judge Willie Gregory

Seattle Municipal Court—King County

Willie.gregory@seattle.gov

206-684-8709

Race/Ethnicity: African American

WASHINGTON SUPERIOR, JUVENILE, DISTRICT & MUNICIPAL COURTS

Judge LeRoy McCullough

King County Superior Court

LeRoy.McCullough@kingcounty.gov

Race/Ethnicity: African American



Judge Edward McKenna

Seattle Municipal Court—King County

ed.mckenna@seattle.gov

206-684-8709

Race/Ethnicity: American Indian



Judge Patrick Oishi

King County Superior Court

patrick.oishi@kingcounty.gov

206-477-1471

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

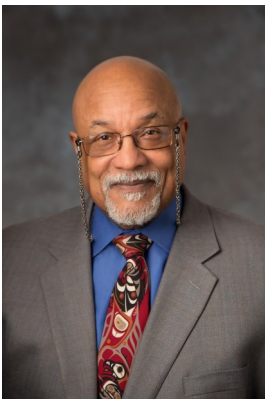


Judge Jason Poydras

Maleng Regional Justice Center—King County

Race/Ethnicity: Black

WASHINGTON SUPERIOR, JUVENILE, DISTRICT & MUNICIPAL COURTS

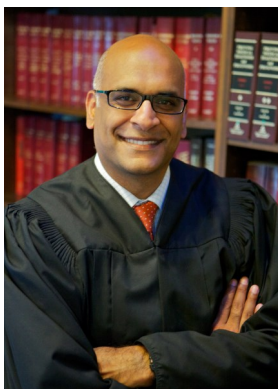


Judge J. Wesley Saint Clair

King County Superior Court

wesley.saintclair@kingcounty.gov

Race/Ethnicity: Black; African American



Judge Ketu Shah

King County District Court

ketu.shah@kingcounty.gov

206-477-3134

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Lori K. Smith

King County Superior Court

Lori-kay.smith@kingcounty.gov

206-477-1354

Race/Ethnicity: Black



Judge Mariane Spearman

King County Superior Court

mariane.spearman@kingcounty.gov

206-477-1647

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

WASHINGTON SUPERIOR, JUVENILE, DISTRICT & MUNICIPAL COURTS



Judge Tanya Thorp

King County Superior Court

tanya.thorp@kingcounty.gov

206-477-1489

Race/Ethnicity: Black and White



Judge Frank E. Cuthbertson

Pierce County Superior Court

fcuthbe@co.pierce.wa.us

253-798-7625

Race/Ethnicity: Black



Judge Michael Dunn

Gig Harbor Municipal Court—Pierce County

253-851-7808

Race/Ethnicity: White



Judge G. Helen Whitener

Pierce County Superior Court

hwhiten@co.pierce.wa.us

253-798-7571

Race/Ethnicity: Black

WASHINGTON SUPERIOR, JUVENILE, DISTRICT & MUNICIPAL COURTS



Judge Tam T. Bui

Snohomish County District Court Everett Division, SCDC

tam.bui@co.snohomish.wa.us

425-388-3598

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Linda W.Y. Coburn

Edmonds Municipal Court—Snohomish County

linda.coburn@edmondswa.gov

425-771-0210

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Eric Z. Lucas

Snohomish County Superior Court

eric.lucas@snoco.org

425-388-3215

Race/Ethnicity: Black



Judge Aimee Maurer

Spokane County District Court

amaurer@spokanecounty.org

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

WASHINGTON SUPERIOR, JUVENILE, DISTRICT & MUNICIPAL COURTS



Commissioner Jonathon Lack

Thurston County Superior Court

lackj@co.thurston.wa.us

360-709-3217

Race/Ethnicity: White and Asian



Commissioner Indu Thomas

Thurston County Superior Court

thomasi@co.thurston.wa.us

360-709-3295

Race/Ethnicity: Asian Indian



Judge Raquel Montoya-Lewis

Whatcom County Superior Court

RMontoya@co.whatcom.wa.us

360-778-5634

Race/Ethnicity: American Indian

WASHINGTON STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (OAH)



Chief Judge Lorraine Lee

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Lorraine.Lee@oah.wa.gov

360-407-2710

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Stephanie Croom Williams

Administrative Law Judge

stephanie.williams@oah.wa.gov

Race/Ethnicity: Black

Judge Lisa J. Dickinson

Administrative Law Judge

lisa.dickinson@oah.wa.gov

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Judge Patrick España

Senior Administrative Law Judge

patrick.espana@oah.wa.gov

206-389-3400

Race/Ethnicity: White/Hispanic

WASHINGTON STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (OAH)



Judge Bonnie Glenn

Administrative Law Judge

bonnie.glenn@oah.wa.gov

206-389-3400

Race/Ethnicity: Black; African American

Judge Erika Lim

Administrative Law Judge

erika.lim@oah.wa.gov

360-407-2700

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Judge Robert M. Murphy

Administrative Law Judge

robert.murphy@oah.wa.gov

509-742-5710

Race/Ethnicity: White and American Indian (Cherokee/Chickasaw)

Judge Carolyn Pinkett

Administrative Law Judge

Carolyn.pinkett@oah.wa.gov

Race/Ethnicity: Black

WASHINGTON STATE
BOARD OF INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE APPEALS (BIIA)

Judge Randolph F. Bolong

Industrial Appeals Judge
Randolph.Bolong@biia.wa.gov
509-575-2060
Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Judge Anita Booker-Hay

Industrial Appeals Judge
Race/Ethnicity: African American

Judge Meng Li Che

Industrial Appeals Judge
Meng.che@biia.wa.gov
Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Anamaria Gil

Industrial Appeals Judge
Anamaria.gil@biia.wa.gov
360-753-6823
Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic

WASHINGTON STATE
BOARD OF INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE APPEALS (BIIA)



Judge Mitchell Harada

Industrial Appeals Judge

Mitchell.Harada@bii.wa.gov

206-464-6550

Race/Ethnicity: Asian



Judge Dominique' Jinhong

Industrial Appeals Judge

dominique.jinhong@gmail.com

253-389-0700

Race/Ethnicity: Asian and White



Judge Wm. Andrew Myers

Industrial Appeals Judge

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin

Judge Janene Sohng

Industrial Appeals Judge

janene.sohng@bii.wa.gov

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

**WASHINGTON STATE
ENVIRONMENTAL AND LAND USE HEARINGS OFFICE
(ELUHO)**

Judge Carolina Sun-Widrow

Administrative Appeals Judge

carolina.sun-widrow@eluh.wa.gov

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

**WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
BOARD OF APPEALS (BOA)**



Judge Barbara Harris

Chief Review Judge

harribf@dshs.wa.gov

360-664-6093

Race/Ethnicity: Black