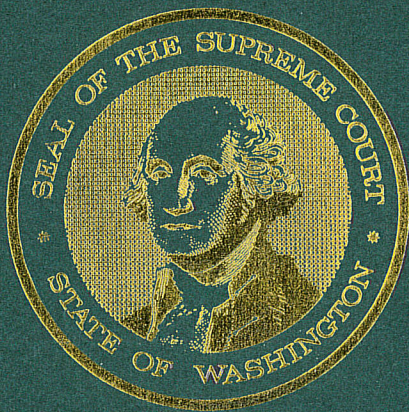


The Supreme Court

State of Washington

Temple of Justice

Olympia



THE WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT



*Inauguration and Administration
of the Oath of Office to*

HONORABLE STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ
as Chief Justice

HONORABLE RAQUEL MONTTOYA-LEWIS
as Justice

HONORABLE DEBRA L. STEPHENS
as Justice

HONORABLE CHARLES W. JOHNSON
as Justice and Associate Chief Justice

Monday, January 11, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.
The ceremony can be viewed online at:
<https://www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2021011000>

PROGRAM

Singing of the National Anthem

by

JOSÉ ÍÑIGUEZ

Welcome and Introduction of the Governor

ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE CHARLES W. JOHNSON

Greetings to the Court from

GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

.....

Presentation of

CHIEF JUSTICE STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ

by

Lucio Maldonado

Attorney at Law

Administration of Oath to Chief Justice Steven C. González

ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE

CHARLES W. JOHNSON

Remarks from

CHIEF JUSTICE STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ

.....

Presentation of

JUSTICE RAQUEL MONTROYA-LEWIS

by

Judge Charles R. Snyder (Ret.)

Whatcom County Superior Court

Administration of Oath to Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis

CHIEF JUSTICE STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ

Remarks from
JUSTICE RAQUEL MONTOYA-LEWIS

.....

Administration of Oath to Justice Debra L. Stephens
CHIEF JUSTICE STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ

Remarks from
JUSTICE DEBRA L. STEPHENS

.....

Administration of Oath to Justice Charles W. Johnson
CHIEF JUSTICE STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ

Remarks from
JUSTICE CHARLES W. JOHNSON

.....

Concluding Remarks for the Court
CHIEF JUSTICE STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ

Benediction
RABBI SETH GOLDSTEIN

Temple Beth Hatfiloh
Olympia, Washington

THE SUPREME COURT

In 2013 the Supreme Court celebrated the Centennial of the Temple of Justice. It was designed by architects Walter Wilder and Harry White as one of six buildings in their 1911 winning capitol campus proposal. The first of the capitol group to be built, the doors of the Temple of Justice were opened to the public for the Governor's Inaugural Ball on January 15, 1913. Home to the State Supreme Court since completion 100 years ago, the Temple of Justice also houses the State Law Library.

Three distinct Supreme Courts have served the portion of the United States that is now the state of Washington. When Washington was part of the Oregon Territory (1848-1853) three justices, appointed by the President of the United States, served as the Oregon Territorial Supreme Court. When not hearing appeals the three jurists rode circuit, presiding over important trials in three separate judicial districts, which encompassed all of present-day Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and portions of Montana and Wyoming. In 1853 the area north of the Columbia River and east to the Continental Divide became the Washington Territory with its own Supreme Court composed of three (and later four) justices. In 1863, with the creation of the Idaho territory, the Washington territory was reduced in size to that of the present day state of Washington.

On October 1, 1889, the people of the Washington Territory approved a state constitution, elected public officials and by means of an Act of Congress obtained statehood for Washington State as a full-fledged member of the Union. Article IV of the new constitution, modeled after California's basic law, outlined the structure of the judicial branch of government. The state's initial Supreme Court was composed of five justices who were elected by the voters of the state. The justices were Thomas J. Anders, the first chief justice, John P. Hoyt, T. L. Stiles, Ralph O. Dunbar and Elmon Scott. Hoyt had served on the territorial Supreme Court and was the presiding officer at the convention that wrote the new state constitution. Stiles and Dunbar also were delegates to that convention.

Although after statehood the justices no longer had the responsibility of riding the trial court circuit, as in territorial days, they continued to experience crowded dockets, necessitating an increase in membership on the court. In 1905 the court was permanently expanded to seven justices and in 1909 the number was increased to the present nine. Between 1889 and 1909 all cases were heard en banc, with all justices participating. Between 1909 and 1969 most cases were heard by a department of the court, each composed of the chief justice and four associate justices. Since establishment of the Washington Court of Appeals in 1969 all cases are heard en banc.

In August 1987, the court moved to the Highways- Licenses Building while architects and engineers prepared the Temple for another century of use with earthquake proofing upgrades. In addition to making the Temple safer, builders reworked its marble, refinished its wood, and replaced some fixtures to restore the building to its original grandeur. The court took advantage of its absence from the building to travel throughout the state and hold sessions in law schools, high schools, and other public locations. This allowed citizens across the state to witness the court in action. In late 1989, the court returned to the Temple of Justice.

On the west side of the marble entry lobby to the main floor of the Temple of Justice is the courtroom of the Supreme Court. East of the lobby is the main reading room of the State Law Library. Numerous items of historical interest are contained on this floor as well as the floor below, and on the mezzanine above the entry lobby. The Temple of Justice contains offices for the chief justice and the eight other justices of the court, their administrative assistants and law clerks, the Reporter of Decisions, State Law Librarian, Clerk of the Court, Court Commissioner, and Administrator of the Courts.

The Supreme Court receives the written record of the trial along with other court papers filed in the cases that it considers together with printed arguments (briefs) of the attorneys regarding the disputed questions of law. Prepared in advance, the nine justices gather for a public hearing in the courtroom to hear

arguments from attorneys for the parties to the case before them and to question the attorneys concerning the issues presented in the case. Oral argument usually is forty minutes, twenty minutes per side. A private conference of the justices follows, and a decision is reached in the case. The responsibility to write an opinion for the court is then assigned to a justice or to the chief justice. When the written decision has been circulated and signed by the justices, it is published in permanent volumes of the Washington Reports. If a decision is not unanimous, there may be both majority and dissenting opinions written. Decisions of the Supreme Court have precedential value and are relied on by lawyers and judges in determining future disputes involving similar questions of law.

In deciding a case, the court determines, within the fact pattern of the case before it, whether the lower court has applied the law correctly. If no prejudicial error is found, the judgment of the lower court is affirmed.

The Supreme Court, as the state's highest court, has major responsibility for administering the judicial system of the state. In that capacity it promulgates the rules for the courts of limited jurisdiction (district and municipal courts), the superior courts, the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. Judicial rules also govern the admission of lawyers to the practice of law in this state, as well as conduct of attorneys and the discipline that may be imposed for violations of the rules.

Washington State's Supreme Court has operated under constitutional mandate as the final arbiter and explicator of the law since its establishment in 1853 as the Supreme Court of Washington Territory. The work of the court gives meaning and content to our concept of freedom and liberty, to the preservation of our constitutional rights, and to making a reality of our ideal of "Equal Justice Under Law." The decisions of the Supreme Court form the common law of Washington State, and together with the Supreme law, the constitutions of the United States and the State of Washington, and the statutes passed by the legislature have a great impact on the lives and actions of us all.

The nine justices each serve six-year terms on the Supreme

Court. Three members of the court are chosen by non-partisan judicial ballot at the general election each even numbered year. The Chief Justice is selected by the members of the Court to serve a four-year term. In this manner the leadership of the Supreme Court changes; but court operation and management are collegial matters, with all of the justices voting on important questions.

When a vacancy occurs on the Supreme Court, the governor of the state of Washington may appoint a person to fill the position. An appointee of the governor, however, must stand for election at the next general election. Since 1889, of the justices who have served, 54 have come to the Supreme Court by gubernatorial appointment.

Present Supreme Court members and the dates they began their service:

<i>Chief Justice Steven C. González</i>	<i>January 1, 2012</i>
<i>Associate Chief Justice Charles W. Johnson</i>	<i>January 14, 1991</i>
<i>Justice Barbara A. Madsen</i>	<i>January 11, 1993</i>
<i>Justice Susan Owens</i>	<i>January 8, 2001</i>
<i>Justice Debra L. Stephens</i>	<i>January 1, 2008</i>
<i>Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud.</i>	<i>January 1, 2013</i>
<i>Justice Mary I. Yu</i>	<i>May 20, 2014</i>
<i>Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis</i>	<i>January 6, 2020</i>
<i>Justice G. Helen Pierre-Whitener</i>	<i>April 24, 2020</i>

*Members of the
Washington State Supreme Court*



*Chief Justice
Steven C. González*



*Associate Chief Justice
Charles W. Johnson*



*Justice
Barbara A. Madsen*



*Justice
Susan E. Owens*



*Justice
Debra L. Stephens*



*Justice
Sheryl Gordon McCloud*



*Justice
Mary I. Yu*



*Justice
Raquel Montoya-Lewis*



*Justice
G. Helen Pierre-Whitener*

Chief Justice
STEVEN C. GONZÁLEZ

Chief Justice Steve González was appointed to the Washington State Supreme Court effective January 1, 2012, and subsequently won two contested races for six-year terms starting in 2013 and 2019. Before joining the Supreme Court, Chief Justice González served for ten years as a trial judge on the King County Superior Court hearing criminal, civil, juvenile, and family law cases.

Prior to his election to the King County Superior Court, Chief Justice González practiced both criminal and civil law. He was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Western District of Washington, a Domestic Violence Prosecutor for the City of Seattle and in private practice at a Seattle law firm.

Chief Justice González has received numerous awards throughout his career, including the Golden Scarf from the Seattle Sounders FC, “2012 Difference Makers Award” from the American Bar Association’s Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division, and “Judge of the Year” awards from the Washington State Bar Association, the Washington Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, and the Asian Bar Association of Washington in 2011. He also received the Exceptional Member Award from the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington in 2011 and the Vanguard Award from the King County Chapter of Washington Women Lawyers in 2009.

Chief Justice González is passionate about providing open access to the justice system for all. He was appointed by the Supreme Court to the Washington State Access to Justice Board and served on the Board for seven years, including the last two years as its Chair. For the last eight years, Chief Justice González has served as Chair to the Interpreter Commission supporting efforts to enhance language access across our state, including, most recently, the amendment to General Rule 11.3 to address remote interpreting as courts continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the adoption of General Rule 11.4 to establish protocols for team interpreting. Chief Justice González also mentors students, regularly participates in the Northwest Minority Job Fair, and serves as a Board member for the Washington Leadership Institute, a program that aims to develop Bar and community leaders who reflect the diversity of Washington State.

Chief Justice González is a member of the Board of Judicial

Administration, a member of the Court Security Taskforce, and the chair of the Facilities and Logistics Committee of the COVID-19 Court Recovery Taskforce. He also chairs the Court's Circulation, Security and Technology Committees.

Chief Justice González earned his B.A. with Honors in East Asian Studies from Pitzer College and his J.D. from U.C. Berkeley School of Law where he was the Technical Editor of the La Raza Law Journal. As a part of his undergraduate degree, Chief Justice González studied at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan and at Nanjing University in China. Before law school, he did graduate work in Economics at Hokkaido University on a scholarship from Rotary International. He received Honorary Doctor of Laws Degrees from Gonzaga University School of Law in 2011 and the University of Puget Sound in 2015. In 2018, he taught State Constitutional Law at Gonzaga University School of Law.

Chief Justice González speaks Japanese, Spanish and some Mandarin Chinese. He lives in Olympia with his wife, Michelle, and their two sons.

Associate Chief Justice
CHARLES W. JOHNSON

Associate Chief Justice Charles W. Johnson began service on the Washington State Supreme Court in January 1991, and is the longest serving justice on the court. Justice Johnson was born in Tacoma, attended Curtis High School near Tacoma, and graduated from the University of Washington in 1974. He graduated from the University of Puget Sound School of Law (now Seattle University School of Law) in 1976, working his way through law school at a Tacoma lumber mill.

Justice Johnson remains active at Seattle University School of Law, where he is a Distinguished Jurist in Residence. He was an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law from 1995 to 2010, teaching a comprehensive seminar on state constitutional law. He also taught courses on the federal constitution, legal writing, oral advocacy, and brief writing. Justice Johnson, in conjunction with the Seattle University students, authored a comprehensive article on Washington search and seizure law in 1998, 2005, 2013, and 2019. He teaches and lectures throughout Washington State at law schools, universities, community colleges, high schools, and community organizations. He has received national recognition for his contribution to legal education, being awarded the 2012 John J. McAulay Legal Educator Award based on his

dedication to the principles and ideals of integrity, compassion, courage and professional service.

Justice Johnson participates generously in law-related, professional, and community activities. He served as co-chair of the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission from 1994 to 2018, and he co-chaired the 2004 Task Force on Civil Equal Justice Funding. He has served as chair of the Washington State Supreme Court's Rules Committee since 1996. Justice Johnson also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Association for Children and Parents and the Visiting Committee of the University of Washington School of Social Work

In October 2002, Justice Johnson received a special commendation from the Washington State Bar Association's Committee on Legal Services to the Armed Forces for his outstanding service and contribution to the Armed Forces stationed in Washington State by supporting a rule allowing military lawyers to be licensed in Washington to provide in-court representation to eligible low income service members. In May 2011, he received the Washington State Bar Association's William O. Douglas award for his years of judicial service. He has been presented with the Star Award, the Liberty Bell Award, and the Public Service Award by several organizations. Justice Johnson was also awarded the Distinguished Law Graduate from Seattle University School of Law and the Dedicated Service Award from the American Bar Association.

Justice Johnson is dedicated to supporting educational opportunities for disadvantaged children and youth. He and his wife support educational efforts of organizations including Auburn and Tacoma Rotaries, and scholarship programs at the University of Washington, Washington State University, and Tacoma Community College.

Justice Johnson and his wife are committed to public service and supportive of civic organizations including American Heart Association, YMCA campaigns, Tacoma Community College, University of Washington Foundation, Tacoma Rescue Mission, Olympic Wildlife Rescue, Children's Home Society, Washington State Law Enforcement Memorial, Peninsula School District, Boys and Girls Clubs, Washington Trails Association, Pierce County Food Banks, and the Lions Club.

He and his wife, Dana, live in Gig Harbor. Their interests include sailing, hiking, climbing, downhill skiing, biking, traveling, and reading.

Justice
BARBARA A. MADSEN

The voters elected Barbara Madsen as the third woman to serve on the Washington Supreme Court in 1992, and she was re-elected in 1998, 2004, 2010, and 2016. Justice Madsen was unanimously elected by her colleagues to serve two terms as the 55th Chief Justice of the Washington State Supreme Court, from 2010-2017. In that role she was the court's chief spokesperson.

Justice Madsen, a native of Renton, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Washington in 1974 and earned her J.D. from Gonzaga University School of Law in 1977. While at Gonzaga, Justice Madsen volunteered many hours with Gonzaga's University Legal Assistance Clinic and Spokane County Legal Services.

After completing law school, Justice Madsen worked as a public defender in King and Snohomish counties. In 1982, she joined the Seattle City Attorney's Office and was appointed Special Prosecutor in 1984. Mayor Charles Royer appointed Justice Madsen to the Seattle Municipal Court bench in 1988, where she served as Presiding Judge for two terms.

Justice Madsen is committed to public service and equal justice. When she served as the Special Prosecutor, Madsen developed the child abuse component of Seattle's Family Violence Project. After joining the Seattle Municipal Court bench, she helped develop a Domestic Violence Coordinating Committee to comprehensively address violence in the family. As Presiding Judge, she increased opportunities for women and attorneys of color to receive appointments as pro tem judges.

Justice Madsen's commitment to equal justice continues today on the Supreme Court. In 1998, she was appointed chair of the Washington State Gender and Justice Commission. The Commission, partnering with other community groups, succeeded in passing legislation banning the shackling of women prisoners during labor. Under her direction, the Commission has produced the Domestic Violence Manual for Judges, the Sexual Orientation Benchguide, the Sexual Offense Benchguide, and the Immigration Resource Guide for Judges, in partnership with the Minority and Justice Commission, as well as developing judicial education on a wide variety of gender issues and model policies designed to enhance the safety of victims of domestic violence. In 2001, Justice Madsen facilitated Washington's first Glass Ceiling Study. In 2004, Justice Madsen co

chaired the Crystal Brame Committee which secured legislation requiring all police agencies to adopt investigation protocol for police perpetrated domestic violence and sexual assault. In 2005, she helped establish the Initiative for Diversity, a program encouraging legal employers to commit to and implement organizational plans to increase diversity. As chief justice, Madsen was instrumental in the development of a limited legal license technician program, the first in the nation, to address the critical justice gap for low and moderate income people. In 2013, Justice Madsen led the Supreme Court efforts to develop the Tribal State Court Consortium, encouraging and building partnerships among tribal and state judicial officers. In 2019, Justice Madsen was appointed co-chair of the Washington State Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care, in which stakeholders work to improve court processes, laws, regulations and policies so children can move safely and quickly into stable homes, through reunification with parents or through adoption. In 2020, she was appointed chair of the Judicial Information System Committee. The committee oversees information technology for Washington courts, automating and supporting the daily operations of the courts and maintaining a statewide network connecting the courts and partner criminal justice agencies to the JIS database.

Among her many honors, Justice Madsen was the first recipient of the annual Myra Bradwell Award, honoring an outstanding alumna of Gonzaga University School of Law who has made great strides on behalf of women. Twice she received the Washington Women Lawyers Vanguard Award, in 1998 and 2002, for her leadership and inspiration for women in the legal profession. In 2010, she was named the Seattle University School of Law Woman of the Year and in 2011, she received the Social Justice Award from the Loren Miller Bar Association for her unwavering dedication to the pursuit of justice and equality in Washington State. In 2014, she was awarded the Gonzaga Law Medal from Gonzaga University School of Law. Justice Madsen received the 2015 Betty Binns Fletcher Leadership and Justice Award in recognition of outstanding leadership of the judicial branch. In 2020, Justice Madsen received the prestigious Joan Dempsey Klein Award by the National Association of Women Judges for her decades of work encouraging and supporting women in the legal profession.

Justice Madsen is a member of Washington Women Lawyers, the National Association of Women Judges, the Washington Initiative for Diversity, the American Law Institute, and the American Bar Association. She and her husband, Donald Madsen, live in Pierce County and have four children.

Justice
SUSAN OWENS

On November 7, 2000, Judge Susan Owens was elected the seventh woman to serve on the Washington State Supreme Court. She joined the court after serving nineteen years as District Court Judge in Western Clallam County, where she was the County's senior elected official with five terms. She also served as the Quileute Tribe's Chief Judge for five years and Chief Judge of the Lower Elwha S'Klallam Tribe for six plus years.

Justice Owens was born and raised in Kinston, North Carolina, where she graduated from high school. Her father, the late Frank Owens, was a small town general practitioner, and her mother, Hazel, is a retired law enforcement officer. She attended college at Duke University. After graduation in 1971, she attended law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, receiving her J.D. in 1975. She was admitted to the Oregon State Bar in 1975, and the Washington State Bar in 1976.

Justice Owens was active in the District & Municipal Court Judges' Association for many years. She was President-Elect of DMCJA prior to her election to the Supreme Court. She previously served as Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Board member. She served on the Long Range Planning, Diversity, Conference, and Education committees. In 1990, she was co-founder and Chair of the Rural Courts Committee, and has taught that subject at the Judicial College. She is extremely proud to be a member of that most important judiciary.

Justice Owens is passionate about domestic violence issues that impact children, and judicial education in that area. She has been a national trainer in that subject. She has trained judges from Anchorage to Albuquerque, and participated in the writing of the Northwest Tribal Judges Domestic Violence Manual. She has lectured at the National College of Prosecuting Attorneys' Domestic Violence Conference. She is committed to ongoing efforts in this very important area of law.

Justice Owens serves on the Rules Committee, the Budget Committee, the Administrative Committee, Appellate Education Committee, and the Tribal State Court Consortium Planning Committee. She is also the vice chair of the Bench-Bar-Press Committee and co-chair on the Traveling Court Committee. She has formerly served on the Fall Judicial Conference Committee, the Gender and Justice Commission,

Board for Judicial Administration, the Washington State Bar Association's Leadership Institute Advisory Board, and the Committee on Public Defense.

Justice Owens loves baseball, and her children Sunny and Owen, daughter-in-law Ann, son-in-law Chad Nelson, and her five grandchildren. She also loves the Olympic National Park, Lake Ozette, and everything about the West End of Clallam County.

Justice
DEBRA L. STEPHENS

The Honorable Debra L. Stephens has been a member of the Washington State Supreme Court since January 2008 and served as the court's 57th chief justice. Justice Stephens previously served as a judge for Division Three of the Court of Appeals and is the first judge from that court to join the Washington State Supreme Court, as well as the first woman from Eastern Washington to do so. A native of Spokane, Washington, she practiced law and taught as an adjunct professor at Gonzaga University School of Law prior to taking the bench. She appeared as counsel over 125 times in the Washington State Supreme Court, in addition to appearances in the Idaho Supreme Court, in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and as counsel of record in the United States Supreme Court.

Justice Stephens is deeply involved in efforts to advance justice and improve the legal system in Washington State and beyond. A leader in judicial and public education, she serves on the Washington Civic Learning Council, is a founding executive committee member of the National Courts and Sciences Institute (NCSI), and a convener for Dividing the Waters, an organization supporting judicial education on water law issues. She has been a member and co-chair of the Board for Judicial Administration, and co-chair of the COVID-19 Court Recovery Task Force. Justice Stephens is active in the National and International Association of Women Judges and co-chairs its Judicial Independence Committee. Internationally, she works with USAID to train foreign judges on issues of judicial independence and the rule of law.

Justice Stephens has received numerous recognitions for her work, including the "Myra Bradwell Award" from the Gonzaga Women's Law Caucus, the "Leadership & Justice Award" from MAMAS (Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle), the "Distinguished Judicial Service Award" from Gonzaga University School of Law, and the

“President’s Award” from Washington Women Lawyers. Most recently, the Board for Judicial Administration presented her the “Innovating Justice” award in recognition of her leadership of the judicial branch during the COVID-19 crisis.

Justice Stephens and her husband have been married for over 30 years and have two grown children. She comes from a large and loving family and enjoys nothing more than spending time with family at their home below Hell’s Canyon.

Justice
SHERYL GORDON McCLOUD

Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud was elected to the Washington Supreme Court in 2012 after a career of helping clients fight for their constitutional and individual rights. As a Justice, she serves as Chair of the Washington State Supreme Court Gender & Justice Commission, as a member of the Supreme Court’s Rules Committee, and as the liaison to the Supreme Court’s Pattern Instructions Committee (on which she previously served as a lawyer-member). She is also on the Washington State Bar Association’s Council on Public Defense. She speaks regularly at legal and community events throughout the state on topics ranging from ethics to criminal justice.

Justice McCloud brought a wealth of appellate experience with her; she handled hundreds of cases before the Washington Supreme Court and other appellate courts before she became a judge. Her law practice showed a record of commitment to communities of color and a long history of providing legal assistance to those who lack the ability to pay. In one of her first volunteer cases, she helped successfully defend a woman’s right to pregnancy disability leave in the United States Supreme Court. She also taught at the Seattle University School of Law and has published several articles.

Her legal expertise was recognized by her peers before she joined the bench. For example, she received the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers’ highest award, the William O. Douglas Award, for “extraordinary courage” in the practice of law. Her commitment to justice is still recognized by her peers now that she has a track record of work as a Justice. In 2015, Washington Women Lawyers King County Chapter honored her with its President’s Award. In 2018, the Cardoza Society of Washington State presented her with its L’Dor V’Dor Award.

Justice
MARY I. YU

Mary Yu was appointed to the Washington Supreme Court on May 16, 2014, and subsequently elected in 2014 and 2016. Justice Yu joined the Supreme Court after more than 14 years as an accomplished trial court judge in King County Superior Court where she presided over a wide variety of criminal, civil, and juvenile cases, and presided over hundreds of adoptions and other family law matters.

Prior to becoming a judge, Justice Yu served as Deputy Chief of Staff to King County Prosecutor Norm Maleng and as a deputy in the Criminal and Civil Divisions. Before attending law school, Justice Yu worked in the Peace and Justice Office for the Archdiocese of Chicago first as staff and later as Director of that office following her appointment to the position by Cardinal Joseph Bernardin.

Justice Yu has an extensive record of service both on and off the bench, mentoring young attorneys, law clerks, and students; co-chairing the Court's Minority and Justice Commission; chairing the Board for Judicial Administration's Public Trust and Confidence Committee; teaching at Seattle University School of Law and serving as Jurist in Residence; and co-chairing the Washington State Bar Association/University of Washington Law School Leadership Institute. Justice Yu has served on the board of FareStart from 2009 – 2018, and the advisory board for the University of Washington School of Law's Gates Public Service Program from 2014 - 2018. She is personally devoted to the Seattle Girls' School Mock Trials, serving as their judge for the last 15 years. Justice Yu is a member of the American Law Institute.

Justice Yu was raised in Bridgeport, a South Side neighborhood in Chicago, by immigrant parents; her mother came from Mexico and her father from China. She is the first in her family to graduate from college. She received her B.A. from Dominican University, her M.A. in Religious Studies from Mundelein College of Loyola University in Chicago, and her J.D. from the University of Notre Dame Law School. Justice Yu is the first Asian, the first Latina, and the first member of the LGBTQ community to serve on the Washington State Supreme Court.

Justice Yu is the recipient of the following awards: 2019 Crosscut "Courage in Elected Office" Award; 2019 "Established Leader" Pride Award, Mayor Jenny Durkan, City of Seattle; 2018 "Voice of Social

Justice" from the Greater Seattle Business Association; 2017 "Lifetime Achievement Award" from Northwest Asian Weekly; 2016 "Daniel K. Inouye Trailblazer Award" from the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association; 2016 "Imagine Justice" Award from Columbia Legal Services; 2016 Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington; 2016 Seattle Women's Pride, Luminary Award; 2015 Seattle Storm, "Inspiring Women" award; 2015 "Brava! Award" from the Women's University Club; 2015 "Woman of the Year" from the Seattle University School of Law and Women's Law Caucus; 2014 "Judge of the Year" from the Washington State Association for Justice; 2014 "Betty B. Fletcher Judge of the Year" Award from Washington Women Lawyers, King County Chapter; 2013 "Public Official of the Year" from the Municipal League Foundation; 2013 Latina/o Amicus Award from Seattle University School of Law Latina/o Law Student Association; 2012 "President's Award" from the Asian Bar Association of Washington; 2012 "Difference Makers Award" from the American Bar Association Solo, Small Firm and General Practice Division; the 2011 "Judge of the Year" award from the Washington State Bar Association (shared with Justice González); 2011 Seattle Girls' School Grace Hopper Award; 2009 Norm Maleng Award from the Washington State Bar Association; 2008 "Judge of the Year" from the Asian Bar Association; 2008 President's Award from Washington Women Lawyers; 2006 "Model of Excellence" Award from the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington; 2005 "Judge of the Year" award from the American Board of Trial Advocates; and 2005 Reah Whitehead Public Leadership Award from Seattle University School of Law.

Justice Yu maintains residency in Seattle and Lacey.

Justice
RAQUEL MONTOYA-LEWIS

Justice Raquel Montoya-Lewis was appointed to the Washington State Supreme Court by Governor Jay Inslee in December 2019 and took the oath of office on January 6, 2020. Justice Montoya-Lewis is an enrolled member of the Pueblo of Isleta and a descendant of the Pueblo of Laguna, two federally recognized tribes in New Mexico. She is the first enrolled member of any tribe to sit on a state supreme court in the U.S. and the second Native American to sit on a state supreme court. She is also of Jewish descent.

Prior to becoming an Associate Justice, she served as a Superior Court judge for Whatcom County for five years, where she heard criminal

and civil trials and presided over the Whatcom County Therapeutic Drug Court. In the 15 years prior to her work on the Superior Court, she served as a tribal court judge for multiple tribes in the Pacific Northwest and the Southwest. She served as Chief Judge for the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, the Nooksack Indian Tribe, and the Lummi Nation.

In addition to her work as a tribal court judge, she was a tenured Associate Professor at Western Washington University's Fairhaven College where she taught law-related courses and courses on cultural identity development. She has continued to use her teaching skills as a jurist, teaching a wide variety of audiences including judges, social workers, lawyers, and advocates on implicit bias, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and best practices in child welfare and domestic violence cases.

Justice Montoya-Lewis graduated with her BA degree from the University of New Mexico in 1992 and completed her law degree and Master of Social Work degree at the University of Washington in 1995 and 1996 respectively.

Justice
G. HELEN PIERRE-WHITENER

Justice G. Helen Whitener was appointed to the Washington State Supreme Court in April 2020 and she was elected by the voters to retain her position on the State Supreme Court in November 2020.

Prior to her appointment to Washington State's highest court, Justice Whitener served as a Pierce County Superior Court judge from 2015 to April 2020. Justice Whitener has also served as a judge on the Washington State Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals and as a pro-tem judge in Pierce County District Court and the City of Tacoma Municipal Court. Before becoming a judge, Justice Whitener litigated both civil and criminal cases for 14 years as first a prosecutor and defense attorney and later as a managing partner of the law firm of Whitener Rainey Witt PS.

Justice Whitener is well recognized by the legal community for her commitment to justice and equity. In January 2021, Justice Whitener received the Western Region of the National Black Law Students Association Judge of the Year Award. In 2020, Justice Whitener received Washington Women Lawyers Chief Justice Mary Fairhurst Passing the Torch Award and she received the International Association of LGBTQ+ Judges President's Award. In 2019, Justice Whitener was

awarded the Washington State Bar Association's Charles Z. Smith Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion Award, the King County Washington Women Lawyers President's Award, the Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association Service to Diversity Award, and the Seattle University School of Law and Women's Law Caucus Woman of the Year Award. In 2018, Justice Whitener received the Pierce County Washington Women Lawyers Woman of the Year Award.

Justice Whitener serves as co-chair of the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission and is the Appellate Court Representative to the Washington Supreme Court Interpreter Commission. Justice Whitener serves on the Board of Directors of the International Association of LGBT Judges as well as on the Washington State Office of Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee. Additionally, Justice Whitener is a member of the International Association of Women Judges, the National Association of Women Judges, and the American Judges Association. She is also a former chair and co-chair of the Washington State Superior Court Judges' Association – Equity and Fairness Committee. Justice Whitener is a judicial member of Washington Women Lawyers and is a judicial member of the Advisory Council for the QLaw Association of Washington.

Justice Whitener is the first Black woman to serve on the Washington Supreme Court, the fourth immigrant-born Justice and the first Black LGBT judge in the State of Washington. Justice Whitener is often invited to speak to organizations locally, nationally, and internationally on human rights, access to justice, and the responsibility of the judiciary to ensure the right of all who appear before the court to basic dignity and respect in judicial proceedings.

Justice Whitener was born and raised in the Caribbean island nation of Trinidad and Tobago. In 2015, at the request of the United States Embassy, Judge Whitener visited her home country to speak on human rights. In 2016, Judge Whitener gave a TEDxPOS Talk entitled, "Claiming your identity by understanding your self-worth" where she discusses the empowerment of embracing respect and how it informs her philosophy and approach to living. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=57FMau29O_g

Justice Whitener earned her B.A. degree in Business Administration and International Marketing from Baruch College, New York, and received her J.D. degree from Seattle University School of Law. Justice Whitener lives in Pierce County with her wife, attorney Lynn Rainey (CSM-US Army Ret).

