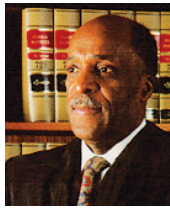


## JUDICIAL HONORS

The U.S. Senate passed a resolution honoring the late **NATHANIEL JONES**, who served 23 years as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Cincinnati.



Judge Jones passed away in January at the age of 93. He was the first African American to serve as a federal appeals court judge in Ohio and the first black prosecutor in the Northern District of Ohio. He also served as general counsel for the NAACP. "Judge Jones devoted his entire life to answering the call for racial justice, and his unwavering commitment to this country is one we should all aspire to emulate. He not only fought to make this country a better place, but he paved the way for generations of lawyers, clerks, and advocates

that will follow him," said Sen. Sherrod Brown, who co-sponsored the resolution with Sen. Rob Portman. "We lost a giant in Judge Nathaniel Jones. Through his work as a lawyer, he was a national leader in advancing civil rights and as a judge a distinguished champion in protecting those rights," Portman said. "Through it all, he was a humble man of the highest integrity."

The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Foundation presented U.S. District Judge **SOLOMON OLIVER JR.** with the Richard W. Pogue Award for Excellence in Community Leadership and Engagement at the foundation's 15th annual gala. Oliver served as a federal prosecutor in Cleveland and as a professor and dean at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law before he was

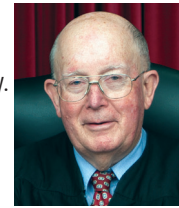
appointed to serve as a judge in the Northern District of Ohio in 1994. He was honored for his work with a number of Cleveland bar programs, including ones designed to connect students with mentors, resources and experiences to help them in school and their careers.

Lancaster County Court Judge **HOLLY PARSLEY** received the "Improvement of the Judicial System Award" at the Nebraska Supreme Court's annual judicial dinner. The award recognizes meritorious projects and exemplary accomplishments beyond a judge's day-to-day duties. Parsley was recognized for her leadership on the Nebraska Supreme Court Commission on Guardianship and Conservatorship, the Guardian and Conservatorship Forms and Rules Committee, and the Bench-Media Committee.

The new Justice and Municipal Court building in Lafayette County, Miss., will be named for the county's longest-serving judge, **JOHNNY WAYNE MCLARTY**. The naming request, made by Justice Court Judge Mickey Avent, was unanimously approved by the county's Board of Supervisors in recognition of McLarty's commitment to his work and community. Said Avent of McLarty: "He has made the judicial system better, and

Lafayette County better, simply by being 'The Judge.'"

Maine Supreme Judicial Court Justice **DONALD G. ALEXANDER** was honored for 41 years of service on the bench during a retirement celebration in February. Alexander was named to the state's superior court in 1980 and was appointed to the state's high court in 1998. Colleagues say Alexander's most lasting impact on Maine law is his book, the *Maine Jury Instruction Manual*.



The veterans court program in Ventura County, Calif., was renamed in honor of the now-retired judge who helped create it. Judge



**COLLEEN TOY WHITE** helped start the Veterans Treatment Court in 2010 and was part of the program until her retirement in 2017. The court hears criminal cases of veterans who may be suffering some physical or psychological trauma, such as post-traumatic stress disorder. "Judge White used her personal courage, compassion, and heart to make our veterans court into the success it is today,"



### MEET JUDGE BARBIE.

Mattel's "Career of the Year" Barbie for 2019 was none other than a judge. The doll was designed to "inspire girls to imagine" themselves in the role of a judge, doing things "like protecting the rights of others and ruling on legal

cases." Judge Barbie wears a black robe (and a flowered dress underneath), a removable lace collar, and heels; she comes with a gavel and block to help children "call the room to order and make important decisions."

said Ronald Greenwood, co-founder of the Gold Coast Veterans Foundation. "Judge White is the soul and conscience of the veterans court. Every veterans court graduate is the beneficiary of her service and commitment."

U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice **ELENA KAGAN** received the New York State Bar Association's Gold Medal Award in January. She was the 10th Supreme Court justice to be accorded the prestigious honor. "It's a recognition of her extraordinary contributions to the profession, to legal education – she was the dean of Harvard Law School – [and] to jurisprudence," said Hank Greenberg, current president of the State Bar Association and a shareholder at Greenberg Traurig LLP.

The federal courthouse in downtown Minneapolis was renamed to honor Judge **DIANA MURPHY** – the first woman appointed to the federal bench in Minnesota and the first to sit on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. It is the sixth U.S. courthouse named for a woman. Judge Murphy died in 2018 at the age of 84.

U.S. Magistrate Judge **DIANE VESCOVO** was recently honored by the Association for Women

Attorneys with the Marion Griffin-Frances Loring Award, which recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions to women in the legal profession. Vescovo was the first female federal magistrate judge in the West District of Tennessee; she will retire this year after serving 25 years in the post.

Senior Superior Court Judge **L. TODD BURKE** of the 21st Judicial District of Forsyth County, N.C., received "The Order of the Long Leaf Pine" in recognition of his 25 years of judicial service. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the governor of North Carolina.

*Minnesota Lawyer* honored

Minnesota Court of Appeals Judge **PETER M. REYES, JR.**

with its Recognition of Outstanding Service in its 2019 Attorneys of the Year publication. Reyes was also admitted to the publication's Circle of Excellence. Reyes is active in the American Bar Association and has served as national president of the Hispanic National Bar Association and of the Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association. In 2016, he received the Ohtli Award, the highest award the



Mexican government presents to a non-Mexican citizen.

Indiana Court of Appeals Judge **JOHN G. BAKER** was honored by members of the Indiana Legislature ahead of his retirement later this year. Baker served 31 years on the Court of Appeals and 13 years on the Monroe County bench. As they passed a resolution in Baker's honor, legislators from both sides of the aisle praised him for embodying the collaborative relationship between the Indiana Legislature and the judiciary.

Vice Chief Justice **ANN A. SCOTT TIMMER**, Supreme Court of Arizona; Judge **DANIEL P. COLLINS**, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; Associate Justice **JOSHUA P. GROBAN**, Supreme Court of California; Judge **JOSEPH M. GETTY**, Court of Appeals of Maryland; Judge **BRIAN R. MARTINOTTI**, U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey; Chief Justice **JUDITH K. NAKAMURA**, New Mexico Supreme Court; and Justice **KEN WISE**, Fourteenth Court of Appeals in Houston, were elected members of the American Law Institute.

## We want to hear from you!

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### JUDICIAL HONORS

We print select judicial honors, space permitting, and lists of active judges celebrating milestone anniversaries of the date of their commission. Send your submissions to [judicature@law.duke.edu](mailto:judicature@law.duke.edu); high-resolution (300 dpi) photos are welcome.

### THE STORIED THIRD BRANCH

The Storied Third Branch invites judges to write a tribute to another judge who has, through example or mentorship, served as an inspiration to colleagues on and off the bench. See details at [judicature.duke.edu](http://judicature.duke.edu).