

HON. RENEE L. WORKE
JUDGE
MINNSEOTA COURT OF APPEALS

The Honorable Renee L. Worke was appointed on June 9, 2005 to the Minnesota Court of Appeals. She was elected in 2006, and re-elected in 2012. Her Appellate Court service includes: Specialty Court Development – Veterans Treatment Court; Legislative Advisory Workgroup; Strategic Planning Workgroup; Security Committee; Children's Justice Initiative and Appellate Lead Judge. Before her time on the Court of Appeals, Judge Worke was appointed on Nov. 8, 1996 to the Third Judicial District Court, Waseca County. She was elected in 1998, and re-elected in 2004. Her District Court service includes: Conference of Chief Judges, elected vice chair; Third Judicial District Chief Judge, two terms; Third Judicial District Assistant Chief Judge; Transformation Workgroup (responsible for recommending a leadership, management structure for the unified Judicial Branch); Special Legislative Redistricting Panel, 2001-2002; Children's Justice Initiative, Lead Judge; Child Protection Rules Committee.

Judge Worke's previous work experience includes: Partner; Rietz, Rietz, Rietz & Worke, Owatonna, MN; Assistant Public Defender, Third Judicial District; Administrative Law Judge, Child Support Division, Office of Administrative Hearings; and Law Clerk for District Court Judge Urban J. Steimann, Faribault, MN

Judge Worke is a graduate of the Minnesota State University Mankato (Magna Cum Laude), and the William Mitchell College of Law. She was a Humphrey Institute Policy Fellow at the University of Minnesota. She also attended the Institute for Faculty Excellence in Judicial Education, University of Memphis

Judge Worke has achieved many honors: Minnesota State University, Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award; Ann Bancroft Foundation, Women Leader Award; Woman of Achievement, Owatonna Business & Professional Women's Organization; and Recipient of the Rosalie E. Wahl Judicial Award of Excellence, Minnesota State Bar Association.

Amongst her professional and community activities: William Mitchell College of Law, Adjunct Professor; Hamline University School of Law, Adjunct Professor; St. Thomas University School of Law, Mentor; Minnesota District Judges Association; Minnesota State Bar Association; Minnesota Women Lawyers; Donald D. Eustice Law Enforcement Scholarship Board; University of Minnesota Extension Steering Committee; Steele County Agricultural Society; and Mock Trial Judge.