

Hon. Karen A. Romano

Senior Judge Karen A. Romano, Johnston, IA, was appointed as an Iowa District Court Judge in December 2001. She retired from full-time service April 1, 2019. She received her bachelor's degree from Creighton University in 1983 and her law degree from University of Iowa College of Law in 1986 with distinction. Judge Romano worked for a private law firm before serving as an Assistant Polk County Attorney from 1987 to 1996. She served as a District Associate Judge from April 1996 until her appointment as a District Court Judge. Judge Romano is a member of the Polk County, Iowa State, and American Bar Associations. She is also a member of Polk County Women Attorneys, Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys, Iowa Judges Association, and National Association of Women Judges. Judge Romano served as the chair of the Polk County Courthouse Security Committee (22 years) and a member of Iowa Supreme Court's Court Interpreter Policies Advisory Committee (20 years) until her retirement in 2019. As part of the Iowa Senior Judge program, Judge Romano works part-time covering for judges on vacation or other leave. Judge Romano speaks frequently to legal, civic, and school groups on various areas of the law.