

Judge Toni E. Clarke (Ret)
Circuit Court for Prince George's County Maryland
Seventh Judicial Circuit of Maryland

Judge Toni E. Clarke (Ret) served as Associate Judge of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County Maryland, Seventh Judicial Circuit from February 6, 1998, until taking senior status on September 1, 2018. During her tenure Judge Clarke presided over many types of cases including, but not limited to, Civil, Criminal, Foreclosure, Family and Juvenile. Judge Clarke is currently a Neutral and Arbitrator with The McCammon Group, serving Maryland, the District of Columbia and Virginia.

Judge Clarke received her J.D. from the University of Maryland School of Law (now University of Maryland Frances Carey Law School), Class of 1986, and her B.S. from The Pennsylvania State University, Class of 1979, where she played on the Women's Varsity Basketball team. Prior to her appointment, Judge Clarke practiced law in both the public and private sector. Among her many professional accomplishments, Judge Clarke was the first African American female to serve as State's Attorney for Prince George's County, Maryland, and in the State of Maryland.

Judge Clarke is very active in and has held leadership positions in the American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ), and the Maryland State Bar Association; and is a former President of the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association, and the first African-American to serve as President of both the Women's Bar Association of Maryland and the Prince George's County Bar Association.

Judge Clarke is the immediate Past President of the National Association of Women Judges, is a Past-Chair of the Judicial Division (JD) of the American Bar Association (ABA) and is a Past-Chair of the National Conference of State Trial Judges (NCSTJ) of the ABA. Judge Clarke has been on several committees of the NAWJ, having Chaired or Co-Chaired several committees and having served as District Director and in several officer positions. She has also served on several committees of the ABA, where she has been Chair or Co-Chair of committees of the NCSTJ and has Chaired or Co-Chaired of the Judicial Clerkship Program and the Standing Committee on Diversity in the Judiciary of the JD. She is a former member of the ABA's House of Delegates, representing the NCSTJ, where she served for nine years. And is a former member of the ABA's Nominating Committee. On December 31, 2022, Judge Clarke concluded three consecutive terms on the Board of Trustees of the National Judicial College. She is currently an Emeritus Trustee on that Board.

Judge Clarke has been recognized by numerous organizations for her hard work, community involvement, and mentoring. Among other awards she has received are the Women's Bar Association of Maryland's Rita C. Davidson Award, the Maryland Daily Record's 2004 Leadership in the Law Award, and the 2001 and 1999 Maryland Daily Record's Maryland's Top 100 Women.