

## The Judicial Branch

North Carolina's court system had many levels before the judicial branch underwent comprehensive reorganization in the late 1960s. Statewide, the N.C. Supreme Court had appellate jurisdiction, while the Superior Court had general trial jurisdiction. Hundreds of Recorder's Courts, Domestic Relations Courts, Mayor's Courts, County Courts and Justice of the Peace Courts created by the General Assembly existed at the local level, almost every one individually structured to meet the specific needs of the towns and counties they served. Some of these local courts stayed in session on a nearly full-time basis; others convened for only an hour or two a week. Full-time judges presided over a handful of the local courts, although most were not full-time. Some local courts had judges who had been trained as lawyers. Many, however, made do with lay judges who spent most of their time working in other careers. Salaries for judges and the overall administrative costs varied from court to court, sometimes differing even within the same county. In some instances, such as justices of the peace, court officials were compensated by the fees they exacted and they provided their own facilities.

As early as 1955, certain citizens recognized the need for professionalizing and streamlining the court system in North Carolina. At the suggestion of Governor Luther Hodges and Chief Justice M.V. Barnhill, the North Carolina Bar Association sponsored an in-depth study that ultimately resulted in the restructuring of the court system. Implementing the new structure, however, required amending Article IV of the State Constitution. In November, 1962, the citizens of North Carolina approved an amendment authorizing sweeping changes in the state's judicial branch. There was not enough time between the passage of the amendment and the convening of the 1963 General Assembly to prepare legislation to implement the changes.

The General Assembly of 1963 created a Courts Commission and charged it with preparing the new legislation. The Courts Commission began its study soon after the adjournment of the session. The 1965 General Assembly approved legislation containing the commission's recommendations for structuring a new court system. The constitutional amendment and resulting legislation created an Administrative Office of the Courts and established the framework for the District Court Division.

During the late 1950s and early 1960s, the Supreme Court of North Carolina was one of the busiest in the country. Faced with an increasing number of cases dealing with its customary judicial business and a number of post-conviction appeals based on constitutional issues resulting from recent United States Supreme Court decisions, the court was becoming overburdened. This situation led the 1965 General Assembly

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to submit a proposed amendment to Article IV of the North Carolina Constitution. The new amendment authorized the creation of an intermediate court of appeals to relieve pressure on the N.C. Supreme Court by sharing the appellate caseload. Voters overwhelmingly approved this recommendation in the November, 1965, election. The 1967 General Assembly enacted the necessary legislation establishing the North Carolina Court of Appeals. The Court of Appeals became operational on October 1, 1967.

The constitutional changes and legislation of the 1960s created the state's current multi-level court system. The judicial branch now contains two trial divisions, the District Court Division and, above it, the Superior Court Division. The Appellate Division consists of two levels — the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. The Administrative Office of the Courts, which began operations in 1965, provides administrative support to the court system at all levels.

North Carolina's counties still play an important role in keeping the wheels of justice turning throughout the state. Prior to the reorganization of the judicial branch in the 1960s, counties had extensive funding responsibility for the operations of various courts and court officials. The court reforms established a unified General Court of Justice and the state assumed responsibility for funding and administering virtually all court operations. Some county responsibilities, however, remain. Each county has the duty to adequately furnish and maintain a courthouse with at least one courtroom and related facilities. In certain municipalities where the General Assembly has authorized additional district court seats, individual municipalities provide court facilities.

The sheriff of each county, or one of the sheriff's deputies, performs the duties of court bailiff. The bailiff opens and closes courts, carries out directions of the judge in maintaining order during court sessions, takes care of jurors when they are deliberating on a case and otherwise assists the judge. A court reporter records the proceedings in most of the cases tried in superior court.

Jurors are drawn for each term of court by an independent three-member jury commission in each county. The commissions select names at random from their county's voter registration records, the list of licensed drivers residing in the county and any other sources deemed reliable. Each name is given a number and the clerk of superior court draws prospective juror numbers at random from a box. Drawn numbers are matched to names held by the register of deeds and the sheriff summons jurors from the resulting list. No occupation or class of person is summarily excused from jury service. State law, in fact, specifically declares jury service an obligation of citizenship to be discharged by all qualified citizens. The chief district court judge hears all requests to be excused from jury service.

The state's court system currently contains the following judicial bodies:

## Supreme Court of North Carolina

The Supreme Court, the highest court in North Carolina's state judicial branch, has functioned as an appellate court since 1805. Prior to 1819 the court's members also acted as trial judges, holding terms in the different counties. The Supreme Court does not use juries and it makes no determinations of fact. Instead the court focuses on claims of error in legal procedures or in judicial interpretation of the law. It hears oral arguments on the written record of cases previously tried by the superior courts, district courts and certain administrative agencies and commissions.

The only original case jurisdiction exercised by the N.C. Supreme Court involves the censure and removal of judges upon the non-binding recommendation of the Judicial Standards Commission. The N.C. Supreme Court hears all cases involving constitutional questions or in which there has been dissent among members of the Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court may, at its discretion, review Court of Appeals decisions in cases of significant public interest or cases involving legal principles of major significance. Appeals of first-degree homicide convictions where the defendant has been sentenced to death go automatically to the Supreme Court for review. Automatic review is also available in Utilities Commission general rate cases. In all other cases, appeals of lower-court or administrative agency decisions must be made to the Court of Appeals. The N.C. Supreme Court may, at its discretion, hear appeals directly from the trial courts in cases involving significant public interest, cases involving legal principles of major significance where delay would cause substantial harm or when the Court of Appeals docket is unusually full.

Since 1937 the N.C. Supreme Court has consisted of a chief justice and six associate justices. Prior to the reforms of the 1960s, the court's membership varied from only three members (1818-1868; 1875-1889) to as many as five members (1868-1875; 1889-1937). The chief justice and the associate justices are elected by the state's voters, each for an eight-year term. If a vacancy occurs during a term, the governor appoints an interim justice to fill the vacancy until the next general election.

The N.C. Supreme Court sits to hear oral arguments in its courtroom in the Justice Building in Raleigh with the chief justice presiding. The senior ranking justice presides when the chief justice is absent. The court sits en banc with all members present to hear each case. Associate justices are seated alternately to the right or left of the chief justice according to their seniority in years of service on the court. Administrative officers of the N.C. Supreme Court include the clerk, the librarian and the reporter, all of whom are appointed by the court and serve at its pleasure. The Appellate Division reporter prepares opinions of both the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals.

## North Carolina Court of Appeals

The 1965 constitutional amendment and legislation that established the Court of Appeals provided for a total of nine judges to be elected for eight-year terms. The General Assembly created three additional seats on the court in 1977, bringing the total number of judges to twelve. December 15, 2000, the General Assembly increased the number of seats to fifteen. The bulk of the Court of Appeals' caseload consists of cases appealed from the trial courts. The court also hears direct appeals of certain administrative agency decisions. The Court of Appeals sits in panels of three judges. This arrangement allows the court to hear arguments in separate cases at the same time. The chief justice of the N.C. Supreme Court designates one of the judges of the Court of Appeals as chief judge. The chief judge assigns appellate judges to the four panels so that each will sit, as nearly as possible, an equal number of times with every other judge. The Court of Appeals sits primarily in Raleigh, although it may sit in other locations throughout the state as authorized by the Supreme Court. The Court of Appeals appoints a clerk to serve at its pleasure. Opinions of the Court of Appeals are prepared by the Appellate Division reporter.

## Superior Court

North Carolina's superior courts are the general jurisdiction trial courts for the state. The superior court has original jurisdiction in all felony cases and in certain misdemeanor cases. Most misdemeanors, however, are tried first in district court and convictions may be appealed to the superior court for trial de novo by a jury. Superior court also hears civil cases where the amount in controversy exceeds \$10,000 and it has jurisdiction over appeals from most administrative agencies. Regardless of the amount in controversy, the original civil jurisdiction of the superior court does not include domestic relations cases, probate and estates matters. Likewise, it does not hear certain special proceedings that are instead heard first by the clerk of superior court. Rulings of the clerk, however, are within the appellate jurisdiction of superior court.

North Carolina's 100 counties are grouped into superior court districts. Each district has at least one senior resident superior court judge who has certain administrative responsibilities for his or her home district. Resident superior court judges are elected by statewide ballot to office for eight-year terms. In addition, the governor may appoint a limited number of special superior court judges pursuant to statute.

Superior court districts are grouped into eight divisions for the rotation of superior court judges. Within each division, resident superior court judges are required to rotate among the superior court districts and hold court for at least six months in each, then move on to their next assignment. Special superior court judges may be assigned to hold court in any county. The chief justice of the N.C. Supreme Court, assisted by the Administrative Office of the Courts, makes all assignments of superior court judges. North Carolina's constitution requires that at least two sessions of superior court be

held in each county every year. The vast majority of counties have more than the constitutional minimum, with many larger counties having superior court sessions nearly every week in the year.

## **District Court**

The court reorganization in three phases of the 1960s established a uniform system of district courts throughout the state. In December of 1966, district court was activated in 22 counties, followed by an additional 61 counties in December, 1968, and the remaining 17 counties in December, 1970. As district courts opened in each judicial district, all courts below the level of superior court were abolished. All cases pending in the abolished courts were transferred to the dockets of the district court for trial. All records of the abolished courts were transferred to the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court, who is required to maintain a system of consolidated records of both superior court and district court. Counties were relieved of all expenses incident to the operation of the courts except the expense of providing adequate physical facilities.

The General Assembly has grouped North Carolina's 100 counties into district court districts. District court must sit in at least one place in each county. District court has exclusive original jurisdiction of virtually all misdemeanors and infractions (non-criminal violations of law not punishable by imprisonment), probable cause hearings in felony cases, all juvenile proceedings and mental health hospital commitments, as well as domestic relations cases. It also exercises jurisdiction over civil cases where the amount in dispute is \$10,000 or less. District courts provide jury trial upon demand in civil cases. Appeals of civil case decisions go to the Court of Appeals on questions of law only. District courts are not authorized to empanel juries in criminal cases. Appeals of district court decisions in criminal cases are for trial de novo before a jury in superior court.

One or more district court judges are elected to four-year terms in each district. In multi-judge districts, the chief justice of the N.C. Supreme Court designates one of the judges as chief district court judge. Subject to supervision by the chief justice, chief district court judges exercise administrative supervision and authority over the operation of the district courts and magistrates in the district. District court judges serve full-time.

## **Magistrates**

With the establishment of district courts in all of the state's counties, the office of justice of the peace was abolished and replaced by the newly-fashioned position of magistrate. Magistrates function within district court as subordinate judicial officials. Appointed by the senior resident superior court judge upon recommendation of the clerk of superior court, magistrates serve a term of two years. A change in the state's constitution in 2004 allows magistrates to be re-appointed to four-year terms following their initial two-year appointment. The chief district court judge supervises

magistrates in his or her particular district. Magistrates exercise extensive authorities within the district court division. Magistrates try certain misdemeanor worthless check cases and civil suits designated as small claims cases. They may also accept written appearances, waivers of trial and pleas of guilty or admissions of responsibility in certain misdemeanor and infraction cases, as well as conduct initial appearances, grant bail before trial in non-capital cases and issue arrest and search warrants.

### **District Attorneys**

North Carolina is divided into prosecutorial districts, each of which has a district attorney who is elected to a four-year term. District attorneys represent the state in criminal actions brought in the superior and district courts in the district and in juvenile cases. District attorneys are also responsible for ensuring that infraction cases are prosecuted efficiently. In addition to prosecutorial functions, the district attorney in each district is responsible for calendaring criminal cases for trial.

### **Public Defenders**

The state provides legal counsel in a variety of actions and proceedings for defendants who have been determined by a judge to be financially unable to hire their own attorneys. As of fiscal year 2005-06, there were 11 public defenders and 121 assistant public defenders representing indigent persons in 13 counties. Public defenders are appointed by the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for four-year terms. In the remaining counties, representation of indigent persons is provided almost entirely by assignment of private counsel. Private counsel is assigned by the court, the Office of Indigent Defense Services and, in certain circumstances, the public defender. There is also an Appellate Defender Office to handle criminal defense services for indigent persons who appeal convictions to the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals.

### **Commission on Indigent Defense Services**

The Indigent Services Act of 2000 created this thirteen-member commission. The commission and its staff, the Office of Indigent Defense Services, are located within the judicial branch, but exercise their prescribed powers independently of the AOC. The commission and the director of the Office of Indigent Defense Services are responsible for establishing, supervising and maintaining a system for providing legal representation and related services in all cases where indigent persons are entitled to representation at state expense.

### **Clerks of Superior Court**

A clerk of superior court is elected to a four-year term in each county. The clerk hears and decides special proceedings such as adoptions, condemnations, partitions and foreclosures. The clerk also serves as ex-officio judge of probate and performs

record-keeping and administrative functions for both the superior and district courts of the county.

### **Trial Court Administrators**

Across 13 superior court districts, 11 trial court administrators assist in managing the day-to-day administrative operations of the trial courts. Their responsibilities include civil case calendaring, improving jury utilization and establishing and managing local court rules. Trial administrators are appointed and supervised by the senior resident superior court judge.

In 1994 Chief Justice James G. Exum appointed the Commission for the Future of Justice and the Courts in North Carolina, chaired by John Medlin, chairman of Wachovia Corporation. The commission's mission was to undertake the most comprehensive review of the state courts since the present structure was established in the 1960s. The commission's membership and operation were deliberately designed to ensure that its examination would be fresh and independent and the 27-member commission included no active member of the judiciary. The commission met for two years and issued a final report on their study, *Without Favor, Denial or Delay*, in December, 1996. The commission concluded that sweeping reforms were needed to restructure the court system to allow the most effective use of existing resources, to support cost-efficient investments in new support personnel and technology, to clearly assign responsibility and provide accountability, to better address the legal problems of families, to protect the judiciary from politics, to include citizens in the governance of the courts and to provide flexibility for change in an unpredictable future. Many of the commission's recommendations are subjects of legislative interest and consideration.

Several on-going commissions are important to the work of the Judicial Branch:

### **Judicial Standards Commission**

This seven-member commission exists as the appropriate agency to investigate complaints about the qualifications or conduct of any justice or judge. Upon recommendation of the commission, the Supreme Court may censure or remove a judge or, when an action less severe than censure or removal is justified, issue a private admonition.

### **Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission**

Created in 1990, the Sentencing Commission recommends modifications of sentencing laws and policies and for the addition, deletion or expansion of sentencing options. The commission's prior work led to the passage and implementation of the Structured Sentencing Act, which prescribes sentencing options for the court based on the severity of the offense and the prior record of the offender. The commission



consists of 29 members drawn from all three branches of government, from all areas of the criminal justice system and from the public.

### **Courts Commission**

The 28-member Courts Commission consists of court officials, attorneys, legislators and the public. It exists to study the structure, organization, jurisdiction, procedures and personnel within the North Carolina court system and to recommend to the General Assembly any changes that will facilitate the administration of justice.

### **Judicial Council**

The new, legislatively-created Judicial Council convened for the first time in 2000. The council, modeled after similar bodies in other states, is comprised of 17 members appointed by various authorities. The council studies the judicial system, reviews budgets and budget priorities, studies judicial salaries and benefits and recommends the creation of judgeships.

For more information about North Carolina's court system, call the North Carolina Supreme Court: (919) 831-5700, the North Carolina Court of Appeals: (919) 733-3561 or the N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts: (919) 890-1000. You can also visit the Administrative Office of the Courts Web site at [www.nccourts.org](http://www.nccourts.org).

**Sarah Parker**  
**Chief Justice**  
**N.C. Supreme Court**



**Early Years**

Born in Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, on August 23, 1942, to Augustus and Zola Elizabeth Smith Parker (deceased).

**Educational Background**

Garinger High School, Charlotte, 1960; Meredith College, 1960-1962; B.A., UNC-Chapel Hill, 1964; J.D., UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, 1969; Institute of Judicial Administration Appellate Judges Seminar, 1987.

**Professional Information**

Chief Justice N.C. Supreme Court.

**Political Activities**

Chief Justice N.C. Supreme Court, 2006-Present; Associate Justice N.C. Supreme Court, 1993-January 31, 2006; Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 1985-1992. Business/Professional, Charitable/Civic or Community Service Organizations N.C. Bar Association (Vice President, 1987-88); American Bar Association; Mecklenburg County Bar; Wake County Bar Association.

**Elective or Appointed Boards and Commissions**

Governor's Crime Commission; North Carolina Equal Access to Justice Commission; State Advisory Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; Former Member, Board of Visitors, UNC-Chapel Hill; Former Member, N.C. Courts Commission.

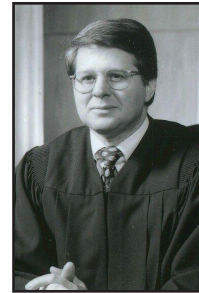
**Military Service**

U.S. Peace Corps, Ankara, Turkey, 1964-1966.

**Honors and Awards**

Gwyneth B. Davis Public Service Award, N.C. Women Attorneys Association; Distinguished Woman of North Carolina Award, 1997; General Federation of Women's Clubs Woman of Achievement Award, 1997; Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Queens College, 1998; Judge of the Year, N.C. Women Attorneys Association, 2002; Fellow, American Bar Association; Distinguished Alumni Award, UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, 2003; N.C. Association of Black County Officials Humanitarian Award 2003; Honorary Doctor of Laws, Pfeiffer University, 2006.

**Mark D. Martin**  
**Associate Justice**  
**N.C. Supreme Court**



**Early Years**

Born April 29, 1963, to Dr. M. Dean (deceased) and Ann Martin.

**Educational Background**

B.S., *summa cum laude*, Western Carolina University, 1985; J.D. with Honors, UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, 1988; Graduate, National Judicial College, 1993; LL.M., University of Virginia School of Law, 1998.

**Professional Background**

Associate Justice, N.C. Supreme Court, 1999-Present; Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 1994-99; Resident Judge, Superior Court, Judicial District 3-A (Pitt County), 1992-94; Legal Counsel to Gov. James G. Martin, 1991-92; Associate, McNair Law Firm, 1990-91; Law Clerk, U.S. District Court Judge, Clyde H. Hamilton, 1988-90.

**Business/Professional, Charitable/Civic or Community Service Organizations**

American Bar Association: Coalition for Justice, Commission on State Court Funding, John Marshall Award Review Committee, The Judges' Journal Editorial Board, Executive Committee of the Appellate Judges' Conference, National Issues Forum Program on the American Jury, National Issues Forum Program on the Separation of Powers, Planning Committee of the Appellate Judges Education Institute.

**Elective or Appointed Boards and Commissions**

Carolina Law Alumni Board of Directors; N.C. Judicial Conference: Secretary, Legislative Liason Committee Co-Chair; Chair, Chief Justice's Commission on the Future of the N.C. Business Court; N.C. Conference for Women; N.C. Conference of Superior Court Judges: Legislation and Law Reform Committee.

**Honors and Awards**

Listed in Who's Who in the World, Who's Who in America, and Who's Who in American Law; Order of the Long Leaf Pine; Participant, Council of State Governments Toll Fellowship Program; Distinguished Alumnus Award, Western Carolina University; Fellow, N.C. Institute of Political Leadership; Service Award, City of Raleigh Community Services Department; Honorary Member, Beta Gamma Sigma Business Fraternity.

**Personal Information**

Married to Kym Lake Martin. Five children.

**Robert Holt Edmunds, Jr.**  
**Associate Justice**  
**N.C. Supreme Court**



**Early Years**

Born in Danville, VA, on April 17, 1949 to Robert Holt, Sr. and Mary Rucker Edmunds.

**Educational Background**

Woodberry Forest School, VA 1967 Cum Laude graduate and National Merit Scholarship finalist; Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., Dean's List, 1967-69; Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Bachelor of Arts, English, General Honors graduate, 1971; UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, Juris Doctor, 1975; Associate justice, Holderness Moot Court Bench, 1975; Master of Laws in Judicial Process (LL.M.), University of Virginia, 2004.

**Professional Background**

Associate Justice, N.C. Supreme Court, 2001-Present; Associate Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 1999-2001; Partner, Stern & Klepfer, LLP, General Private Practice, 1993-98; U.S. Attorney, Middle District of North Carolina, 1986-93; Assistant U.S. Attorney, Middle District of North Carolina, 1982-86; Assistant District Attorney, Eighteenth Judicial District, Guilford County, 1978-82.

**Business/Professional, Charitable/Civic or Community Service Organizations**

North Carolina State Bar; Virginia State Bar; N.C. Bar Association (Appellate Rules Study Committee).

**Elective or Appointed Boards and Commissions**

Board Certified Specialist in State and Federal Criminal Law, 1993-Present, and Criminal Appellate Practice, 1994-Present; Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittee on Guideline Sentencing, 1987-1993, Chair, 1991-1993; Bar CARES, Board of Directors, 2001-Present.

**Military Service**

Ensign, U.S. Navy, 1975-77.

**Honors and Awards**

1987 Prosecutor of the Year, Third Place, International Association of Credit Card Investigators; 1988 Prosecutor of the Year, Carolinas Chapter of the International Association of Credit Card Investigators; 1993 Award, U.S. Department of Justice; 1993 Award, Internal Revenue Service. 1993 Award, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; 1993 Award, Drug Enforcement Administration; 1993 Award, Federal Bureau of Investigation; 1993 Award, United States Customs Service and North Carolina Department of Justice.

**Edward Thomas Brady**  
**Associate Justice**  
**N.C. Supreme Court**



**Early Years**

Born to Thomas and Virginia Briggs Brady.

**Educational Background**

B.A. in Criminal Justice, Univeristy of Nebraska at Omaha, 1972; M.A. in Criminal Justice, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City Univeristy of New York, 1977; J.D., California Western School of Law, 1978.

**Professional Background**

Associate Justice, N.C. Supreme Court, 2003-Present; Attorney, Brady and Brady, 1978-2003; Special Agent, Criminal Investigator with the Department of the Treasury.

**Business/Professional, Charitable/Civic or Community Service Organizations**

Admitted to the United States Supreme Court, United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, United States Army Court of Military Review and the United States Court of Military Appeals; Member, Personnel Committee, Village Baptist Church; Messenger, Village Baptist Church to the North Carolina State Baptist Convention, National Baptist Convention, Phoenix, AZ, 2003 and Indianapolis, IN, 2004.

**Military Service**

U.S. Army, 1965, Retired Colonel, United States Army Reserve, 1995. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal with Valor Device for Heroism and 2nd - 18th Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with Valor Device for Heroism, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Star, 1968; Graduated from Infantry Officer Candidate School and earned the Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Special Forces Tab and Senior Army Aviation Badge, 1996.

**Honors and Awards**

Dean's Award, California Western School of Law, 1978.

**Personal Information**

Married to Dianne Brady. Two children.

**Paul Martin Newby**  
**Associate Justice**  
**N.C. Supreme Court**



**Early Years**

Born in Asheboro, Randolph County, on May 5, 1955 to Samuel O. (deceased) and Ruth Parks Newby. Raised in Jamestown, Guilford County.

**Educational Background**

Ragsdale High School, Jamestown, 1973; B.A., Duke University (*magna cum laude*), 1977; J.D., UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, 1980.

**Professional Background**

Associate Justice, N.C. Supreme Court, 2004-Present; Assistant U.S. Attorney, Raleigh, 1985-2004; Vice President and General Counsel, Cannon Mills Realty and Development Corporation, Kannapolis, 1984-1985; Attorney, Van Winkle, Buck, Wall, Starnes and Davis, P.A., 1980-1984; Judicial Intern, United States Supreme Court, 1976; Intern, 18th Judicial District Public Defenders Office (Greensboro/High Point, Guilford County), 1975.

**Business/Professional, Charitable/Civic or Community Service Organizations**

N.C. State Bar; N.C. Bar Association.

**Elective or Appointed Boards and Commissions**

State Judicial Council Dispute Resolution Committee; N.C. Bar Association Litigation Council and Technology Advisory Committee.

**Honors and Awards**

Eagle Scout and Scoutmaster Emeritus of Troop 11, Raleigh; Boy Scouts of America Heroism Award and God and Service Award; U.S. Department of Justice Crime Victims Fund Award.

**Personal Information**

Married to Macon Tucker Newby. Four children.

**Patricia Timmons-Goodson**  
*Associate Justice*  
*N.C. Supreme Court*



***Early Years***

Born September 18, 1954, in Florence, S.C., to Edward M. (deceased) and Beulah Tindal Timmons.

***Educational Background***

Pine Forest High School, Fayetteville, 1972; B.A. in Speech-English, UNC-Chapel Hill, 1976; J.D., UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, 1979; Graduate, National Judicial College.

***Professional Background***

Justice, Supreme Court of N.C., 2006-Present (Elected 2006); Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 1997-2005 (Appointed by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. in 1997, Elected 1998); District Court Judge, Twelfth Judicial District, 1984-97 (Appointed by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., in 1984; Re-elected, 1986, 1990 and 1994); Staff Attorney, Lumbee River Legal Services, Inc., 1983-84; Assistant District Attorney, Twelfth Judicial District, 1981-83; District Manager, U.S. Census Bureau, 1979-80.

***Business/Professional, Charitable/Civic or Community Service Organizations***

Co-Producer and Co-Host, "Dimensions of Justice" Television Program; Fayetteville Chapter of Links, Inc.

***Elective and Appointed Boards and Commissions***

Secretary, Executive Committee, Appellate Judges Conference of the American Bar Association; Central Selection Committee of Morehead-Cain Scholarship; Co-Editor of Editorial Board of Judges' Journal of ABA.

***Honors and Awards***

Inductee, North Carolina Women's Hall of Fame; Honorary Doctor of Laws, UNC-Chapel Hill; Inclusive Leadership Award, North Carolina Association of Educators; William Richardson Davie Award (University of North Carolina trustee award for extraordinary service); Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Johnson C. Smith University; Honorary Doctor of Civil Laws, Inducted into the Academy of Women, Government, Wake County YWCA; Saint Augustine's College; Gwyneth B. Davis Award, N.C. Association of Women Attorneys; Order of the Long Leaf Pine; William R. Davie Award, UNC-Chapel Hill; General Federation of Women's Clubs, Woman of Achievement Award.

***Personal Information***

Married. Two children.

**Robin E. Hudson**  
**Associate Justice**  
**N.C. Supreme Court**



**Early Years**

Born in DeKalb County, Georgia, on February 20, 1952, to Thomas W. and Barbara Conroy Hudson.

**Educational Background**

Page Senior High School, Greensboro, 1969; B.A. in Philosophy and Psychology, Yale University, 1973; J.D., University of North Carolina School of Law, 1976.

**Professional Background**

Associate Justice, N.C. Supreme Court, 2007-present; Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2001-2006; Attorney, 1976-2000.

**Business/Professional, Charitable/Civic or Community Service Organizations**

ABA, Judicial Division, Appellate Judges Conference; National Association of Women Judges; N.C. Association of Women Attorneys; N.C. Bar Association, Appellate Rules committee; N.C. Bar Association, Bench Bar Liaison Committee; Family Court Advisory Committee; N.C. Association of Women Attorneys, Chair, Judicial Division; ABA Judicial Division, Dispute Resolution Committee.

**Elective and Appointed Boards and Commissions**

Board Member, 2006-Present, President Elect, 2008-2009, Women's Forum of N.C.; Board Member and Vice President, N.C. Bar Association, 2005; Chair and Member, N.C. OSHA Review Board, 1994-2000.

**Honors and Awards**

General Federation of Women's Clubs, Women of Achievement Award; N.C. Academy of Trial Lawyers, Outstanding Appellate Judge Award; Association of Business Women of America, Voices of Experience.

**Personal Information**

Married, N. Victor Farah. Two children.



## The Administrative Office of the Courts

As part of a unified judicial system, the North Carolina Constitution (Article IV, Section 15) provides for “an administrative office of the courts to carry out the provisions of this Article.” The General Assembly has established the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) as the business and administrative arm of the judicial branch.

The director of the AOC is appointed and serves at the pleasure of the chief justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court. The director has the duty to carry out the many functions and responsibilities assigned by statute to the director or to the AOC.

The assistant director of the AOC is also appointed by the chief justice and serves as administrative assistant to the chief justice. The assistant director’s duties include assisting the chief justice with assignment of Superior Court judges, assisting the Supreme Court in preparing calendars of Superior Court sessions and performing other duties as assigned by the chief justice or the director of the AOC.

The basic responsibility of the AOC is to maintain an efficient and effective court system by providing administrative support statewide for the courts and for court-related offices. Among the AOC’s specific duties are the following:

***Establish fiscal policies for and prepare and administer the budget of the judicial branch.***

***Prescribe uniform administrative and business methods, forms and records to be used by the clerks of Superior Court statewide.***

***Procure and distribute equipment, books, forms and supplies for the court system.***

***Collect, compile and publish statistical data and other information on the judicial and financial operations of the courts and related offices.***

***Determine the state of the dockets, evaluate the practices and procedures of the courts and make recommendations for improvement of the operations of the court system.***

***Investigate, make recommendations concerning and provide assistance to county authorities regarding the securing of adequate physical facilities for the courts.***

***Administer the payroll and other personnel-related needs of all judicial branch employees.***

***Carry out administrative duties relating to programs for legal representation of indigents.***

***Administer various court-based programs.***

***Arrange for the printing and distribution of the published opinions of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.***

To accomplish these objectives, the AOC is organized into four divisions, in addition to the director's office. Responsibilities of the Administrative Services Division include preparing the budget and managing appropriations for the entire judicial branch, supervising the accounting system, procuring equipment and supplies, and printing forms used throughout the court system.

The Court Management and Information Services Division supports the information processing needs of the judicial branch, including comprehensive data processing, communications and decision support.

The Legal Services and Programs Division is responsible for case management services, including arbitration, custody mediation, management policies, jury management, drug treatment court and family court, as well as research services. This division also house the statewide guardian ad litem program, which provides trained volunteer guardians ad litem and attorney advocates to represent children who are allegedly abused, neglected or dependent. Also administered within the Legal Services and Program Division is Sentencing Services, comprised of local programs that prepare community-based sentencing plans for eligible offenders.

Because the judicial branch is not subject to the mandates of the State Personnel Office, which serves the executive branch, the Human Resources Division exists to administer the recruitment, training, salary, benefits, employee relations and personnel information systems of the judicial branch. The director's office includes the public information office, grants management and judicial training coordination.

## **John Charles Martin** *Chief Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals*



### **Early Years**

Born in Durham, Durham County, on November 9, 1943, to C.B. Martin (deceased) and Mary Blackwell Pridgen Martin (deceased).

### **Educational Background**

Durham High School, 1961; B.A., Wake Forest University, 1965; J.D., Wake Forest University School of Law, 1967; The National Judicial College, General Jurisdiction Program, 1979; Justice Executives Program, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1982.

### **Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals; 1985-88, 1993-Present; Chief Judge, 2004-present; Resident Judge, N.C. Superior Court, 14th Judicial District, 1977-84; Law Practice, Maxwell, Martin, Freeman & Beason, 1988-92; Haywood, Denny and Miller, 1969-77.

### **Military Service**

1st Lt., Military Police Corps, U.S. Army, 1967-69; Army Commendation Medal.

### **Personal Information**

Married to Margaret Rand Martin. Three children. Two step-children.

## **James Andrew Wynn, Jr.** *Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals*



### **Early Years**

Born in Robersonville, Martin County, on March 17, 1954, to James A., Sr. and Naomi Lynch Wynn (deceased).

### **Educational Background**

Robersonville High School, 1972; B.A. in Journalism, UNC-Chapel Hill, 1975; J.D., Marquette University School of Law, 1979; LL.M., Judicial Process, University of Virginia, 1995; Naval Justice School, Newport, RI UCMJ Art. 27 (b) Certification, 1979; UCMJ Arts 42 (a) and (b) Military Judge Certification, 2000.

### **Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals; 1990-98 and 1999-2010; Associate Justice, N.C. Supreme Court, 1998; Fitch, Butterfield & Wynn, 1984-90; N.C. Assistant Appellate Defender, 1983-84; U.S. Navy JAG Corps, 1979-83; Certified Military Trial Judge, U.S. Navy Reserves.

***Military Service***

U.S. Navy, Judge Advocate General's Corps, Active Duty 1979-83; Reserves, 1983-Present.

***Personal Information***

Married to Jacqueline Dee Rollins Wynn of Raleigh. Three children.

**Linda M. McGee**  
***Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals***



***Early Years***

Born in Marion, McDowell County, on September 20, 1949, to Jean Hogan and Cecil Adam Mace.

***Educational Background***

Marion High School, 1967; B.A., UNC-Chapel Hill, 1971; J.D., UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, 1973.

***Professional Background***

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 1995-Present (appointed in January, 1995, by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr.); Partner, di Santi, Watson & McGee, Boone, N.C., 1980-95; Associate, di Santi & Watson, 1978-80; First Executive Director of N.C. Academy of Trial Lawyers, 1973-78.

***Personal Information***

Married to B. Gary McGee. Two adult children.

**Robert Carl Hunter**  
***Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals***



***Early Years***

Born in McDowell County on January 14, 1944. Mother Lucy Turner Hunter and Stepfather L. Penn Hunter.

***Educational Background***

Glenwood School; Marion City Schools; B.A., UNC-Chapel Hill, 1966; J.D., UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, 1969.

***Professional Background***

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 1998-Present; NC House of Representatives, 1980-1998; Attorney and Senior Partner, Hunter and Evans, P.A.; Former Assistant District Attorney, 29th Judicial District.

***Personal Information***

Married Nancy Hinson Hunter on August 22, 1970. Two children.

**Wanda G. Bryant**  
***Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals***

***Early Years***

Born in Southport, Brunswick County, on June 26, 1956, to Dolphus and Christerbelle Randall Bryant.

***Educational Background***

B.A. in History and Comparative Area Studies, Duke University, 1977; J.D., North Carolina Central University School of Law, 1982.

***Professional Background***

Associate Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2001-Present; Senior Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, 1993-2001; Assistant United States Attorney, Office for the District of Columbia, 1989-93; Staff Attorney, Police Executive Research Forum, 1987-89; Assistant District Attorney, Thirteenth Prosecutorial District of North Carolina, 1983-87; Associate Attorney, Walton, Fairley & Jess, 1982.

***Personal Information***

Married, Ronald Stephen Douglas. One son. One step-daughter.



**Ann Marie Calabria**  
***Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals***

***Early Years***

Born in Bryn Mawr, P.A., on October 31, 1947, to Thomas and Rose Comitta.

***Educational Background***

B.A., *summa cum laude*, History, Fairleigh Dickinson University, 1977; J.D., Campbell University School of Law, 1983.



**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2002-Present; District Court Judge, 10th Judicial District (Wake County), 1996-2002; Sole Practitioner, Cary, N.C., 1991-1996; Associate, Hutchens & Waple, Fayetteville, N.C., 1990-1991; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1989-1990; Sole Practitioner, Fayetteville, N.C., 1988-1989.

**Personal Information**

Married, Dr. Robert D. Calabria, D.D.S. Three children. Three grandchildren.

**Rick Elmore**  
**Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals**

**Educational Background**

Guilford College, 1974; J.D., North Carolina Central University School of Law, 1982.

**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2002-Present; Attorney, Greensboro, N.C., Past Twenty Years; N.C. Department of Correction; Muscular Dystrophy Association.

**Personal Information**

Married, Lisa Eudy Elmore. Two children.



**Sanford L. Steelman, Jr.**  
**Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals**

**Early Years**

Born in Hickory, on September 11, 1951, to Dr. Sanford L. and Margaret Abee Steelman.

**Educational Background**

A.B., *cum laude*, Political Science, Davidson College, 1973; University of East Anglia, Norwich, England, 1971-1972; J.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1976; School for Superior Court Judges, Institute of Government, Chapel Hill, 1994; General Jurisdiction Course, National Judicial College, 1996.



**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2003-Present; Senior Resident Superior Court Judge, District 20-B, 2001-2002; Resident Superior Court Judge, District 20-B, 1994-2001; Partner, Law Firm of Steelman & Long, 1992-1994; Private Practice, Sanford L. Steelman, Jr., 1988-1992; Partner, Griffin, Caldwell, Helder & Steelman, P.A., 1980-1988; Associate Attorney, Griffin, Caldwell & Helder, 1976-1980.

**Personal Information**

Married, Elizabeth Jenny Steelman. Three sons.

**Martha A. Geer**  
**Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals**



**Early Years**

Born in Grinnell, Iowa, to Lucien M. and Sylvia Geer.

**Educational Background**

T.C. Williams High School, Alexandria, VA, 1976; Sociology, (*summa cum laude* with honors), Bryn Mawr College, 1980; J.D., University of North Carolina School of Law, (high honors), 1983.

**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2002-Present; Founding Partner, Patterson, Harkavy & Lawrence, L.L.P, Raleigh, 1991-2002; Associate & Partner, Smith Patterson, Follin, Curtis, James, Harkavy & Lawrence, Greensboro, 1986-1991; Associate, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, New York, NY, 1983-1986.

**Barbara A. Jackson**  
**Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals**



**Early Years**

Born in San Jose, CA, on December 25, 1961, to Kenneth W. and Phyllis S. Jackson.

**Educational Background**

Athens Drive High School, 1980; B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies, UNC, Chapel Hill, 1984; Legal Assistants Program, Meredith College, 1986; J.D., UNC, Chapel Hill, 1990.

**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2005-2010.

**Linda Stephens**  
**Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals**



**Early Years**

Born in Woodruff, South Carolina, on November 13, 1950.

**Educational Background**

Woodruff High School, Woodruff, S.C., 1969, valedictorian; B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1973; J.D., University of North Carolina School of Law, 1979.

**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2006-Present (Appointed by Governor Michael Easley); Teague, Campbell, Dennis & Gorham, LLP, 1984-2006 (Associate 1984-1988, Partner, 1989-2006); Deputy Commissioner, N.C. Industrial Commission, 1980-1984; Law Clerk, N.C. Court of Appeals, 1979-1980.

**Personal Information**

Married to Judge Donald W. Stephens.

**Donna S. Stroud**  
**Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals**



**Early Years**

Born in Kinston, North Carolina, on June 28, 1964.

**Educational Background**

Kinston High School, Kinston, NC, 1982; B.A., Government, *summa cum laude*, Campbell University, 1985; J.D., *magna cum laude*, Campbell University School of Law, 1988.

**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2007-Present; Adjunct Professor of Law, Campbell University School of Law, 2008-Present; Judge, Wake County District Court (10th Judicial District), 2004-2006; Gay, Stroud & Jackson, 1995-2004; Kirk, Gay, Kirk, Gwynn & Howell, 1988-1995; Certified Superior Court Mediator, 1997-2004; Arbitrator, 10th Judicial District Court, 1996-2004.

**Personal Information**

Married to J. Wilson Stroud, 1986. Two sons.



**Robert N. Hunter, Jr.**  
**Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals**



**Early Years**

Born in Greensboro, North Carolina, March 30, 1947.

**Educational Background**

Page High School, Greensboro, NC, 1965; B.A., History, UNC-Chapel Hill, 1969; J.D., UNC-Chapel School of Law, 1973.

**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2009-Present; Hunter, Higgins, Miles, Elam & Benjamin, PLLc, 1999-2008; private practice of law, 1996-1999; Patton, Boggs, LLP, 1989-1996; Hunter, Hodgman, Cooke, Elam & Gordon, 1982-1989; Hunter, Hodgman & Greene, 1980-1981; Adjunct Professor, UNC-Greensboro School of Business Administration, 1978-1981; Deputy Attorney General, 1976; Certified Family Superior Court Mediator, 1993-Present; Certified Family Financial Mediation, 1995-Present; President, New River Gorge Title Ins. Agency, Inc.; Adjunct Professor, Wake Forest University Law School, 2006 and 2008; Adjunct Professor, Elon University School of Law, 2008.

**Personal Information**

Married to Susan Awbrey Hunter. One son. Two step-sons.

**Samual J. Ervin, IV**  
**Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals**



**Early Years**

Born in Morganton, North Carolina, November 18, 1955.

**Educational Background**

Freedom High School, Burke County, 1974; A.B. *magna cum laude*, Davidson College, 1978; J.D., *cum laude*, Harvard Law School, 1981.

**Professional Background**

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2009-Present; Member, North Carolina Utilities Commission (nominated by Gov. James B. Hunt in 1999 and by Gov. Michael F. Easley in 2007); Byrd, Byrd, Ervin, Whisnant, McMahon, P.A., 1981-1999.

**Personal Information**

Married to Mary Temple Ervin. Two children. Two step-children.

## **Cheri Beasley**

### ***Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals***



#### ***Early Years***

Born in Nashville, Tennessee on February 14, 1966 to William Thomas Beasley and Dr. Lou Beasley.

#### ***Educational Background***

B.A., Political Science and Economics, 1988; University of Oxford, Summer Program in Law, 1990; J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 1991; Moot Court Board, 1990-91; Frederick Douglas Moot Court Team, 1990-91.

#### ***Professional Background***

Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals, 2009-Present. District Court Judge, 12th Judicial District, 1999-2008; Assistant Public Defender, 12th Judicial District, 1994-1999; Instructor (Part-time), Fayetteville Technical Community College, 1995; Volunteer Attorney, Tenth Prosecutorial District, 1993, Raleigh, North Carolina.

#### ***Personal Information***

Married to Curtis Owens. Two sons.

**N.C. Superior Court Judges as of 2010****Resident Judges**

<b>District</b>	<b>Judge</b>	<b>Address</b>
1	Jerry R. Tillett* J. Carlton Cole	Manteo Hertford
2	Wayland J. Sermons, Jr.*	Washington
3A	W. Russell Duke, Jr.* Clifton W. Everett, Jr.	Greenville Greenville
3B	Benjamin G. Alford* Kenneth F. Crow John R. Nobles, Jr.	New Bern New Bern New Bern
4A	Russell J. Lanier, Jr.*	Kenansville
4B	Charles H. Henry*	Jacksonville
5	W. Allen Cobb, Jr.* Jay D. Hockenbury Phyllis M. Gorham	Wilmington Wilmington Wilmington
6A	Alma L. Hinton*	Halifax
6B	Cy Anthony Grant, Sr.*	Windsor
7A	Quentin T. Sumner*	Rocky Mount
7B	Milton F. Fitch, Jr.*	Wilson
7BC	Walter H. Godwin*	Tarboro
8A	Paul L. Jones*	Kinston
8B	Arnold O. Jones, II*	Goldsboro
9	Robert H. Hobgood* Henry W. Hight, Jr.	Louisburg Henderson
9A	W. Osmond Smith, III*	Yanceyville
10	Donald W. Stephens* Paul G. Gessner Abraham Penn Jones Howard E. Manning, Jr. Michael R. Morgan Paul C. Ridgeway	Raleigh Raleigh Raleigh Raleigh Raleigh Raleigh

**\*Senior Resident Superior Court Judge**

***Resident Judges (continued)***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Judge</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
11A	Franklin F. Lanier*	Lillington
11B	Thomas H. Lock*	Smithfield
12	E. Lynn Johnson*	Fayetteville
	Gregory A. Weeks	Fayetteville
	Jack A. Thompson	Fayetteville
	James F. Ammons, Jr.	Fayetteville
13A	Douglas B. Sasser.*	Whiteville
13B	Ola M. Lewis*	Southport
14	Orlando F. Hudson, Jr.*	Durham
	A. Leon Stanback, Jr.	Durham
	Ronald L. Stephens	Durham
	Kenneth C. Titus	Durham
15A	J. B. Allen, Jr.*	Graham
	James Clifford Spencer, Jr.	Graham
15B	Carl R. Fox*	Hillborough
	R. Allen Baddo	Pittsboro
16A	Richard T. Brown*	Laurinburg
16B	Robert Floyd, Jr.*	Lumberton
	James Gregory Bell	Laurinburg
17A	Edwin G. Wilson, Jr.*	Wentworth
	Richard W. Stone	Wentworth
17B	A. Moses Massey*	King
	Andy Cromer	King
18	Catherine C. Eagles*	Greensboro
	Henry E. Frye, Jr.	Greensboro
	Lindsay R. Davis, Jr.	Greensboro
	John O. Craig, III	High Point
	R. Stuart Albright	Greensboro

**Resident Judges (continued)**

<b>District</b>	<b>Judge</b>	<b>Address</b>
19A	W. Erwin Spainhour*	Concord
19B	V. Bradford Long*	Asheboro
19C	John L. Holshouser, Jr.*	Salisbury
19D	James M. Webb*	Southern Pines
20A	Tanya Wallace*	Wadesboro
	Kevin M. Bridges	Wadesboro
20B	W. David Lee*	Monroe
21	Judson D. DeRamus, Jr.*	Winston-Salem
	William Z. Wood, Jr.	Winston-Salem
	L. Todd Burke	Winston-Salem
	Ronald E. Spivey	Winston-Salem
22A	Joe Crosswhite*	Statesville
	Christopher M. Collier	Statesville
22B	Mark Glass*	Lexington
	Theodore S. Royster, Jr.	Lexington
23	Edgar B. Gregory*	Wilkesboro
24	James L. Baker, Jr.*	Marshall
	C. Philip Ginn	Marshall
25A	Beverly T. Beal*	Lenoir
	Robert C. Ervin	Morganton
25B	Timothy S. Kincaid*	Hickory
	Nathaniel J. Poovey	Newton
26	Robert P. Johnston*	Charlotte
	W. Robert Bell	Charlotte
	Richard D. Boner	Charlotte
	J. Gentry Caudill	Charlotte
	Yvonne M. Evans	Charlotte
	Linwood O. Foust	Charlotte

***Resident Judges (continued)***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Judge</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
27A	Jesse B. Caldwell, III* Timothy L. Patti	Gastonia Gastonia
27B	Forrest Donald Bridges* James W. Morgan	Shelby Shelby
28	Dennis Jay Winner* Alan Z. Thornburg	Asheville Asheville
29A	Laura J. Bridges*	Rutherfordton
29B	Mark E. Powell*	Rutherfordton
30A	James U. Downs*	Franklin
30B	Bradley Letts*	Waynesville

***Special Superior Court Judges***

Steve A. Balog	Graham
Albert Diaz	Charlotte
Richard L. Doughton	Sparta
James E. Hardin, Jr.	Durham
D. Jack Hooks, Jr.	Whiteville
Jack W. Jenkins	Morehead City
John R. Jolly, Jr.	Raleigh
Gary E. Trawick	Burgaw
Ben F. Tennille	Greensboro
Marvin Blunt	Greenville
Cressie H. Thigpen, Jr.	Raleigh
Ripley Rand	Raleigh
William Pittman	Raleigh
Shannon R. Joseph	Raleigh
A. Robinson Hassell	Greensboro
Calvin E. Murphy	Charlotte

For more information on the N.C. Superior Court call (919) 733-7107

***N.C. District Court Judges as of 2010***

***District Court Judges***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Judge</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
1	C. Christopher Bean* J. Carlton Cole Edgar L. Barnes Amber Davis Malarney Eula E. Reid	Edenton Hertford Manteo Wanchese Elizabeth City
2	Samuel G. Grimes* Michael A. Paul Regina Rogers Parker Chris McLendon	Washington Washington Williamston Washington
3A	David A. Leech* Patricia G. Hilburn Joseph A. Blick, Jr. Galen Braddy Charles M. Vincent	Greenville Greenville Greenville Greenville Greenville
3B	Jerry F. Waddell* Cheryl Lynn Spencer Paul M. Quinn Karen A. Alexander Peter Mack, Jr. L. Walter Mills	New Bern New Bern Morehead City New Bern New Bern New Bern
4	Leonard W. Thagard* Paul A. Hardison William M. Cameron, III Louis F. Foy, Jr. Sara C. Seaton Carol Jones Henry L. Stevens, IV James L. Moore, Jr.	Clinton Jacksonville Richlands Pollocksville Jacksonville Kenansville Clinton Clinton
5	Julius H. Corpening, II* John J. Carroll, III Rebecca W. Blackmore James H. Faison, III	Wilmington Wilmington Wilmington Wilmington

***District Court Judges (continued)***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Judge</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
5	Melinda Haynie Crouch	Wilmington
	Sandra Crinor	Wilmington
	Richard R. Davis	Wilmington
	Jeffrey E. Noecker	Wilmington
6A	Brenda G. Branch*	Halifax
	W. Turner Stephenson	Halifax
6B	Alfred W. Kwasikpui*	Jackson
	Thomas R. J. Newbern	Jackson
	William Robert Lewis, II	Winton
7	William C. Faris	Wilson
	Joseph John Harper, Jr.	Tarboro
	John M. Britt	Tarboro
	Pell Cooper	Nashville
	Robert A. Evans	Rocky Mount
	William G. Stewart	Wilson
8	John J. Covolo	Rocky Mount
	David B. Brantley*	Goldsboro
	Lonnie W. Carraway	Goldsboro
	Robert L. Turner	Kinston
	Timothy I. Finan	Goldsboro
	Elizabeth A. Heath	Lenoir
	Charles P. Gaylor	Goldsboro
9	Daniel Frederick Finch*	Oxford
	S. Quan Bridges	Oxford
	J. Henry Banks	Henderson
	John W. Davis	Louisburg
	Randolph Baskerville	Henderson
9A	Carolyn J. Yancey	Henderson
	Mark E. Galloway*	Roxboro
10	Lloyd M. Gentry	Pelham
	Robert Blackwell Rader*	Raleigh
	James R. Fullwood	Raleigh



***District Court Judges (continued)***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Judge</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
10	Ann B. Salisbury	Raleigh
	Kristen Ruth	Raleigh
	Craig Croom	Raleigh
	Jennifer M. Green	Raleigh
	Monica M. Bousman	Raleigh
	Jane Powell Gray	Raleigh
	Jennifer Jane Knox	Raleigh
	Debra Ann Smith Sasser	Raleigh
	Vinston M. Rozier, Jr.	Raleigh
	Lori G. Christian	Raleigh
	Christine M. Walczyk	Raleigh
	Eric Craig Chase	Raleigh
	Ned Wilson Mangum	Raleigh
	Jacqueline L. Brewer	Raleigh
Anna Elena Worley	Raleigh	
11	Albert A. Corbett, Jr.*	Smithfield
	Jacquelyn L. Lee	Four Oaks
	Jimmy L. Love, Jr.	Sanford
	Addie M. Harris Rawls	Smithfield
	Resson O. Faircloth, II	Lillington
	Robert W. Bryant, Jr.	Smithfield
	O. Henry Willis, Jr.	Smithfield
	Robert Stubbs, Jr.	Smithfield
	Charles Patrick Bullock	Smithfield
Paul A. Holconbe, III	Smithfield	
12	A. Eizabeth Keever*	Fayetteville
	Robert J. Stiehl, III	Fayetteville
	Edward A. Pone	Fayetteville
	Kimbrell Kelly Tucker	Fayetteville
	John W. Dickson	Fayetteville
	Talmage Baggett	Fayetteville
	David H. Hasty	Fayetteville
	George J. Franks	Fayetteville
	Laura A. Devan	Fayetteville
Toni S. King	Fayetteville	

***District Court Judges (continued)***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Judge</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
13	Jerry A. Jolly*	Whiteville
	Napoleon B. Barefoot, Jr.	Bolivia
	Marion R. Warren	Bolivia
	William F. Fairley	Bolivia
	Scott L. Ussery	Bolivia
	Sherry Dew Tyler	Bolivia
14	Elaine M. Bushfan*	Durham
	Ann E. McKown	Durham
	Marcia H. Morey	Durham
	James T. Hill	Durham
	Nancy E. Gordon	Durham
	William Andrew Marsh, III	Durham
15A	James K. Roberson*	Graham
	Bradley R. Allen, Sr.	Graham
	G. Wayne Abernathy	Graham
	David Thomas Lambeth, Jr.	Graham
15B	Joseph M. Buckner*	Hillsborough
	Alonzo Brown Coleman, Jr.	Hillsborough
	Charles T.L. Anderson	Hillsborough
	Beverly A. Scarlett	Hillsborough
	Page Vernon	Hillsborough
16A	William C. McIlwain*	Laurinburg
	Regina McKinney Joe	Raeford
	John H. Horne, Jr.	Raeford
16B	J. Stanley Carmical*	Lumberton
	Herbert L. Richardson	Lumberton
	John B. Carter, Jr.	Lumberton
	William Jeffrey Moore	Lumberton
	Judith Milsap Daniels	Lumberton
17A	Frederick B. Wilkins, Jr.	Wentworth
	Stanley L. Allen	Wentworth
	James A. Grogen	Wentworth

***District Court Judges (continued)***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Judge</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
17B	Charles Mitchell Neaves, Jr.*	Dobson
	Spencer G. Key, Jr.	Dobson
	Angela B. Puckett	Dobson
	William F. Southern, III	Dobson
18	Joseph E. Turner*	Greensboro
	Wendy M. Enochs	Greensboro
	Susan E. Bray	Greensboro
	Patrice A. Hinnant	Greensboro
	H. Thomas Jarrell, Jr.	Greensboro
	Susan R. Burch	Greensboro
	Theresa H. Vincent	Greensboro
	William K. Hunter	Greensboro
	Sherry F. Alloway	Greensboro
	Kimberly Michelle Fletcher	Greensboro
	Polly D. Sizemore	Greensboro
Betty J. Brown	Greensboro	
Avery L. Crump	Greensboro	
19A	William G. Hamby, Jr.*	Concord
	Donna Hedgepeth Johnson	Concord
	Martin B. McGee	Concord
	Michael G. Knox	Concord
19B	Michael A. Sabiston*	Troy
19B	James P. Hill, Jr.	Asheboro
	Jayrene R. Maness	Carthage
	Scott C. Etheridge	Asheboro
	Don Wendell Creed, Jr.	Asheboro
	Robert M. Wilkins	Asheboro
19C	Charles E. Brown*	Salisbury
	Beth Spencer Dixon	Salisbury
	William C. Kluttz, Jr.	Salisbury
	Kevin G. Eddinger	Salisbury
	Roy Marshall Bickett, Jr.	Salisbury

**District Court Judges (continued)**

<b>District</b>	<b>Judge</b>	<b>Address</b>
20A	Lisa D. Thacker*	Rockingham
	Scott T. Brewer	Rockingham
	Amy Wilson	Rockingham
	Amanda L. Wilson	Rockingham
20B	Chrisopher W. Bragg*	Monroe
	Joseph J. Williams	Monroe
	N. Hunt Gwyn	Monroe
	William F. Helms, III	Monroe
21	William B. Reingold*	Winston-Salem
	Chester C. Davis	Winston-Salem
	William T. Graham, Jr.	Winston-Salem
	Victoria Lane Roemer	Winston-Salem
	Laurie L. Hutchins	Winston-Salem
	Lisa V.L. Menefee	Winston-Salem
	Lawrence J. Fine	Winston-Salem
	Denise S. Hartsfield	Winston-Salem
	George A. Bedsworth	Winston-Salem
Camille D. Banks-Payne	Winston-Salem	
22A	L. Dale Graham*	Statesville
	Deborah Brown	Statesville
	Edward Hendrick	Statesville
	Christine Underwood	Statesville
	H. Thomas Church	Mooresville
22B	Wayne L. Michael*	Lexington
	B. Carlton Terry, Jr.	Statesville
	Jimmy L., Myers	Mocksville
	Mary Covington	Lexington
	April Wood	Lexington
23	Mitchell L. McLean*	Wilkesboro
	David V. Byrd	Wilkesboro
	Jeanie Reavis Houston	Wilkesboro
	Michael D. Duncan	Wilkesboro

***District Court Judges (continued)***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Judge</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
24	Alexander Lyerly*	Newland
	William A. Leavell, III	Newland
	Gregory Horne	Newland
	Ted W. McEntire	Newland
25	Robert M. Brady*	Lenoir
	Gregory R. Hayes	Hickory
	L. Suzanne Owsley	Hickory
	C. Thomas Edwards	Morganton
	Burford A. Cherry	Hickory
	Sherri Wilson Elliott	Newton
	John R. Mull	Morganton
	Amy R. Sigmon	Newton
	Gary Dellinger	Hickory
26	Lisa C. Bell*	Charlotte
	H. William Constangy	Charlotte
	Ricky McKoy-Mitchell	Charlotte
	Regan A. Miller	Charlotte
	Hugh B. Lewis	Charlotte
	Becky Thorne Tin	Charlotte
	Thomas F. Moore	Charlotte
	Christy Townley Mann	Charlotte
	Timothy M. Smith	Charlotte
	Ronald L. Chapman	Charlotte
	Donnie Hoover	Charlotte
	Paige B. McThenia	Charlotte
	Theo X. Nixon	Charlotte
	Jena P. Culler	Charlotte
	William Irwin Belk	Charlotte
	Kimberly Y. Best	Charlotte
	Charlotte Brown Williams	Charlotte
John Totten	Charlotte	
Tyyawdi Hands	Charlotte	
Elizabeth T. Trosh	Charlotte	

**District Court Judges (continued)**

<b>District</b>	<b>Judge</b>	<b>Address</b>
27A	Ralph C. Gingles, Jr.*	Gastonia
	Angela G. Hoyle	Gastonia
	John K. Greenlee	Gastonia
	James A. Jackson	Gastonia
	Thomas G. Taylor	Gastonia
	Michael K. Lands	Gastonia
	Richard Bruce Abernethy	Gastonia
27B	Larry James Wilson*	Shelby
	Anna F. Foster	Shelby
	K. Dean Black	Shelby
	Ali B. Paksoy, Jr.	Shelby
	Meredith A. Shuford	Shelby
28	Gary S. Cash*	Asheville
	Shirley H. Brown	Asheville
	Rebecca B. Knight	Asheville
	Marvin P. Pope, Jr.	Asheville
	Patricia A. Kaufmann Young	Asheville
	Sharon Tracey Barrett	Asheville
	James Calvin Hill	Asheville
29A	C. Randy Pool*	Marion
	Laura Anne Powell	Rutherfordton
	J. Thomas Davis	Marion
29B	Athena Brooks*	Fletcher
	Thomas M. Brittain, Jr.	Hendersonville
	David Kennedy Fox	Hendersonville
	Peter Knight	Hendersonville
30	Danny E. Davis*	Waynesville
	Steven J. Bryant	Bryson City
	Richlyn D. Holt	Waynesville
	Monica Hayes Leslie	Waynesville
	Richard K. Walker	Waynesville

For more information about N.C. District Court, call (919) 733-7107.

***N.C. District Attorneys as of 2010***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>District Attorney</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
1	Frank R. Parrish	Elizabeth City
2	Seth H. Edwards	Washington
3A	W. Clark Everett	Greenville
3B	Scott E. Thomas	New Bern
4	G. Dewey Hudson, Jr.	Jacksonville
5	Benjamin David	Wilmington
6B	Valerie M. Asbell	Ahoskie
6A	Melissa Pelfrey	Halifax
6B	Valerie M. Asbell	Ahoskie
7	Robert A. Evans	Tarboro
8	C. Branson Vickory, III	Goldsboro
9	Samuel Currin, III	Oxford
9A	Joel H. Brewer	Roxboro
10	C. Colon Willoughby, Jr.	Raleigh
11	Susan I. Doyle	Smithfield
12	Edward W. Grannis, Jr.	Fayetteville
13	Rex Gore	Bolivia
14	Tracey Cline	Durham
15A	Robert F. Johnson	Graham
15B	James R. Woodall, Jr.	Hillsborough
16A	Kristy M. Newton	Raeford
16B	L. Johnson Britt, III	Lumberton
17A	Philip E. Berger, Jr.	Wentworth
17B	C. Ricky Bowman	Dobson
18	J. Douglas Henderson	Greensboro
19A	Roxann Vaneekhoven	Concord
19B	Garland N. Yates	Asheboro
19C	William D. Kenerly	Salisbury
20A	Michael D. Parker	Albemarle
20B	John Snyder	Monroe
21	Thomas J. Keith	Winston-Salem
22A	Sarah Kirkman	Statesville
22B	Garry W. Frank	Lexington
23	Thomas E. Horner	Wilkesboro

***District Attorneys (continued)***

<b><i>District</i></b>	<b><i>Attorney</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
24	Gerald Wilson	Boone
25	James C. Gaither, Jr.	Newton
26	Peter Gilchrist, III	Charlotte
27A	R. Locke Bell	Gastonia
27B	Richard L. Shaffer	Shelby
28	Ronald L. Moore	Asheville
29A	Bradley K. Greenway	Rutherfordton
29B	Jeff Hunt	Hendersonville
30	Michael Bonfoey	Waynesville