

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-273

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 3, 2020

To recognize and celebrate Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. as he retires after more than twenty-eight years as an Associate Judge on the District of Columbia Superior Court.

WHEREAS, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. was born and raised in Washington, D.C., where he graduated from McKinley High School in 1964;

WHEREAS, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Howard University in 1969 and a Master of Business Administration in from Washington University in St. Louis;

WHEREAS, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. worked as a business consultant for the Interracial Council for Business Opportunity;

WHEREAS, in 1976, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. received his law degree from The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, where he served as a student attorney representing low-income clients through the law school's legal clinic;

WHEREAS, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. began his legal career as an attorney and registered lobbyist for Sears, Roebuck & Co. in Washington, D.C.;

WHEREAS, in 1981, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. joined Emmet G. Sullivan as a partner in the general practice law firm of Houston, Sullivan & Gardner;

WHEREAS, in 1991, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. was appointed to the bench of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia by United States President George H.W. Bush;

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WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Superior Court, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. has served in every division of the Court including Criminal, Family, Tax, Probate, and in the Domestic Violence Unit;

WHEREAS, in August 1994, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. became the Presiding Judge of the Probate and Tax Divisions and during the same year testified before the District of Columbia Council on Probate Reform Legislation;

WHEREAS, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. has served for more than 20 years on the Committee on the Selection and Tenure of Magistrate Judges, the Liaison Committee to the Judicial Disabilities and Tenure Commission, and the Criminal Justice Act Panel Implementation Committee;

WHEREAS, the committees Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. has chaired in the past include the Criminal Justice Act Disciplinary Committee, the Committee on Probate and Fiduciary Rules, and the Advisory Committee on Tax Rules;

WHEREAS, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. is a Charter Member of the Judicial Council of the Washington Bar Association;

WHEREAS, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. has received several awards and honors, with the most recent being selected to the Washington Bar Association Hall of Fame in June 2007; and

WHEREAS, on Thursday, March 19, 2020, Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. will celebrate his retirement and 28 years of service to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia with a reception in the 4th Floor Atrium of the District of Columbia Superior Court.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. Retirement Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2020”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes Judge Wendell P. Gardner, Jr. as he retires after nearly 3 decades worth of service to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and for the impact that he has had on both our judicial system and the District of Columbia.

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Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.