

EVERY VOICE COUNTS

Bridging Divides,
Celebrating Differences

16th Annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession

JUSTICE PIPER D. GRIFFIN



Associate Justice Piper D. Griffin

Associate Justice, Louisiana Supreme Court
New Orleans, LA

A lifelong resident of New Orleans, Justice Griffin graduated from Xavier University Preparatory School, the University of Notre Dame, and LSU's Paul M. Hebert Law Center. As a young lawyer, Justice Griffin began her legal career practicing in the New Orleans area. She was elected to the Orleans Parish Civil District Court in 2001 and served as its Chief Judge from 2012 to 2014. In November, 2020 Justice Griffin was elected to serve as an Associate Justice for District 7 representing portions of both Orleans and Jefferson parishes, following in the footsteps of Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson and Justice Revius Ortique.

Prior to joining the Court, Justice Griffin volunteered with the Juvenile Courts in the Teen Court program, became active in the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, was a board member of the Louisiana Law & Civil Education Association, and worked with the New Orleans Bar Association, serving as its first African American female Chair of its Young Lawyer's Section and as a member of its Executive Board.

As a young lawyer, Justice Griffin was a volunteer with Lawyers in the Classroom and became a frequent Continuing Legal Education speaker. One of her crowning career achievements was when she was selected as a grader for the Constitutional Law Bar Exam and eventually named the Constitutional Law Bar Examiner by the Louisiana Supreme Court again, being the first African American female to be selected as a Bar Examiner. After joining COBA Justice Griffin thought it was important to help identify African American lawyers who could serve as graders and hopefully as future Examiners. She has worked diligently with this effort and thanks to this leadership more African American graders were identified and rose to the level of Examiner.

As a member of the bench, Justice Griffin's volunteerism and leadership did not stop. She lives a life dedicated to service of her community and her profession and continues to be active in many professional and civic associations. She presently serves as Secretary of the American Judges Association where she also serves as chair of its Diversity Committee, Secretary of the Louisiana Judicial Council Foundation/National Bar Association, member of the Louisiana Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics, and many more. Justice Griffin has received numerous awards and certificates in recognition of her accomplishments and her commitment to the community.