

HON. JOHN RAMSEY JOHNSON (RET.)

John Ramsey Johnson, former Interim United States Attorney in the District of Columbia's U.S. Attorney's Office, was sworn in as an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on November 17, 2000.

Judge Johnson has lived in Washington, D.C. since he was a young child. He attended Georgetown University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts (Classical) degree. Upon graduation, Judge Johnson was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force and rose to the rank of Captain. After an honorable discharge, Judge Johnson returned to Washington, D.C. to pursue a law degree at the Antioch School of Law, receiving his Juris Doctor in 1976. Later that year, Judge Johnson began a long tenure with the United States Attorney's Office, serving as an Assistant United States Attorney in most sections of the Office.

During 1989, Judge Johnson served as Chief of the Transnational and Major Crimes Section, overseeing federal prosecution involving espionage, export violations, and domestic and international terrorism, including the first prosecution in this country of an overseas aircraft hijacking in the Middle East and Europe, in which American citizens were held hostage.

In 1993, Judge Johnson was appointed by then Attorney General Janet Reno, and later by judges of the U.S. District Court, to serve as United States Attorney until Eric Holder, Jr. was sworn in as United States Attorney. In 1995, Judge Johnson was promoted to Principal Assistant United States Attorney under then United States Attorney Holder, where he served for three years. In 1998, he became Special Counsel to U.S. Attorney Wilma Lewis, and later served briefly as her Principal Assistant until his appointment to the Superior Court bench.

Judge Johnson has been assigned to most divisions of the Court, including Criminal, Civil and Family. From January 2015 through December 2016, Judge Johnson served as Deputy Presiding Judge of the Civil Division. In addition, he served as Presiding Judge of the Civil Division from January 2017 through December 2018. In January 2019, he was assigned to the Court's Criminal Division. He retired from active service on February 28, 2020. Judge Johnson is married and has two children.