

HON. DIANE STEWART LEPLEY

Judge Diane Stewart Lepley was appointed to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia by Chief Judge Lee F. Satterfield on January 4, 2016. Judge Lepley came to the Superior Court from private practice and specialized in criminal and civil litigation. She represented primarily indigent criminal defendants in DC Superior Court and in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. She is a former Director and Vice President of the D.C. Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Judge Lepley has worked in all three branches of government. She worked for the United States Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works where she studied water resources and wrote articles about public works projects for the Honorable Senator Jennings Randolph. She later became a Congressional Liaison at the National Bureau of Standards (now the National Institute of Standards and Technology) where she analyzed federal legislation and testimony to be presented to the Congress. Following her graduation from law school, she served as the law clerk for the Honorable Tim Murphy in this Court.

Judge Lepley graduated from the University of Illinois in Champaign/Urbana with a Bachelor of Arts in English/Speech. She received a Master's degree in Speech Communications from West Virginia University where her thesis examined the effect of language intensity on the art of persuasion by men and women. She went to law school locally at George Washington University where she obtained her Juris doctor.

Judge Lepley was born in Morgantown, West Virginia and was raised there and in Cookeville, Tennessee with two younger brothers. Her parents, Guy and Patricia Stewart, are native West Virginians. Dr. Guy Stewart is the former Dean of Journalism at West Virginia University and Patricia Stewart is the founding principal of Pat Stewart Real Estate. She and Judge Lepley have won numerous awards in advertising over the past fifteen years.