

# Honorable Judge Donald R. Johnson



I am a lifelong resident of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In 1972, I graduated from Southern University with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. I graduated from Louisiana State University, Paul M. Hebert School of Law, in 1982. Immediately after graduation, I worked as an Assistant District Attorney with the East Baton Rouge Parish District Attorney's Office. During this period, I opened a private law office until my election to the City Court of Baton Rouge in 1999. In 2006, I was elected to the 19th Judicial District Court. I have served this court's Drug and Criminal divisions, and am currently serving the civil division. I am the current Chief Judge presiding over the 19th Judicial District Court.

I hold a firm conviction that education is the key to success. I obtained a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi in May 2014. In December 2009, I received my Master of Judicial Studies from the University of Nevada at Reno, the National Judicial College. In August 2008, I received a Master of Justice Management from the University of Nevada at Reno. In December 2006, I received a Master of Criminal Justice degree from Loyola University of New Orleans.

I have received certifications in many areas including, but not limited to, Classroom Management Skills, Grading and Evaluation, Collaborative Learning, Effective Facilitation of Learning, Judicial Philosophy and American Law, Judicial Development Dispute Resolution Skills, Planning and Presenting Effective Presentations, SPSS Training and Education Services, Grading Confidentiality and FERPA Regulations.

I served as facilitator of Criminal Justice at The University of Phoenix where I taught Criminal Procedure, Criminal Law, Contemporary Issues, and Futures in Criminal Justice. At the University of Nevada at Reno I taught Conducting the Trial and Criminal Justice. I encouraged a high degree of student involvement through presentation of relevant issues and interactive teaching style; imparting knowledge of all aspects of trial procedure. I also taught "Co-Occurring Mental and Substance Abuse Disorders" where I developed knowledge, skills, and abilities to adjudicate citizens with co-occurring disabilities.

I have been the recipient of numerous honors and awards over the past 30 years. These include the Black History Pioneer Award, the Distinguished Community Service Award, Honorary Secretary of State of Louisiana, and the Gus Young Non-Violence Committee Humanitarian Award.

I am available for public speaking engagements at various public gatherings, such as schools, service organizations, churches, prisons, and community centers. Inquiries can be directed to my office if there is an interest in facilitating a conversation on matters relating, but not limited, to criminal law, criminal procedure, criminal justice reform, contemporary legal issues, future opportunities in criminal justice, ethics, trial advocacy, the adjudication of citizens with mental and substance abuse disorders, traffic court sanctions, and safe driving education.