

## **Hon. Denise N. Johnson**

### **JUDGE**

Solutions-focused, perceptive judge with a comprehensive legal background in both civil and criminal litigation, negotiation, and management experience. Calm demeanor in the face of difficulties; expert in independently and cost-effectively managing multiple projects in fast-paced, deadline-driven environments. Highly versatile; adept at quickly mastering new roles and responsibilities. Reputation for integrity, work ethic, and commitment to public service and justice.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Civil Court of the City of New York, Queens County Judge of the Queens County Criminal Court (2021-Present)**

Elected to the Civil Court of the City of New York, November 2020. Currently assigned to serve as a Judge of the Queens County Criminal Court. Presides as needed in various parts of the Queens County Criminal Court including arraignments, general calendar parts, domestic violence, civil summons and Queens Supervised Release oversight parts. Presides over in-person hearings, virtual and in-person pretrial dispositions and attorney compliance matters. Issues written decisions on submitted motions and hearings.

#### **Supreme Court of the State of New York, Queens County - Jamaica, New York Principal Law Secretary to Supreme Court Justice Janice A. Taylor (2006-2020)**

Played a key role as the lead support for the Senior Supreme Court Justice with full accountability for managing judge's pre-trial case load, including motion practice, hearings, and trial settlement conference calendar. Developed and applied a strong comprehension of real estate, foreclosure, negligence, labor law, landlord-tenant, matrimonial, malpractice, and other civil litigation. Demonstrated strategic planning and organization skills in proficiently overseeing the judge's weekly motion, inquest, traverse and matrimonial calendar. Directly counseled the judge on developing areas of law and recent decisions by New York State appellate courts and legal/ethical issues that arise during trials. Supervised Assistant Law Secretary and legal interns.

Successfully drafted thousands of judicial decisions on submitted motions, trial memoranda, pre-trial conferences, and verdict sheets, further illustrating critical thinking and analytical abilities. Exhibited strong relationship building skills as the primary point of contact between attorneys and public appearing before judge.

**Law Offices of Denise N. Johnson, Esq. - Kew Gardens, New York  
Solo Practitioner (2002-2005)**

Demonstrated sharp business acumen in successfully creating, establishing and directing all operations of a profitable firm specializing in real estate litigation, commercial litigation, appellate litigation, and criminal defense. Applied strong case management and negotiation skills in evaluating cases, designing litigation strategies, defending/conducting depositions, and resolving cases through settlement, mediation, arbitration, and trials.

**New York City Law Department, Office of the Corporation Counsel - New York, New York  
Assistant Corporation Counsel, Commercial and Real Estate Litigation and Tort divisions  
(1997-2001)**

Proficiently handled complex litigation matters from inception through completion, with an emphasis on jury and bench trials in New York State Supreme Court, Civil Court, and Small Claims court actions in defense of the City of New York. Proactively supported the research, drafting, and submission of a commercial litigation appeal argued before New York State Court of Appeals. Effectively defended trial and pre- and post-trial memoranda, as well as handling over three hundred depositions.

## **EDUCATION**

St. John's University School of Law, Jamaica, New York  
University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

## **PROFESSIONAL/CIVIC ACTIVITIES**

Macon B. Allen Black Bar Association, Past President  
Queens County Women's Bar Association, Member  
Judicial Friends Association, Member  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Queens Alumnae Chapter, Parliamentarian  
Cambria Heights Civic Association, Member