HONERABLE KAREN AILEEN HOWZE MAGISTRATE JUDGE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Karen Aileen Howze was appointed Magistrate Judge by Chief Judge Rufus G. King III on September 12, 2002.

Judge Howze was born and reared in Detroit, Michigan by her mother, who was a school teacher, and her father, who was a skilled tradesman with Ford Motor Co., Inc.

Judge Howze is a 1972 graduate of the University of Southern California where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism. She graduated from Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco in 1977.

Judge Howze was a reporter and editor with newspapers in San Francisco, Long Island and Rochester, NY, and Detroit, and Washington, D.C. in a career that spanned 19 years. In 1981, she was tapped to be one of eight Founding Editors of USA TODAY and in 1989 became a news executive with Gannett Co., Inc.

After leaving Gannett in 1991, Judge Howze launched her law practice and a media consulting firm that focused on media diversity issues and the training of journalists throughout the world to include all members of the community in news coverage.

Judge Howze focused her law practice on advocacy for children and people with disabilities, adoptions and the protection of the elderly. At the same time, she developed a consulting practice that focused on media diversity issues and the training of journalists throughout the world to include all members of the community in news coverage and EEO investigations.

From 2000 to 2001, Judge Howze served as Special Master in the Family Division, D.C. Superior Court, to develop strategies for the implementation of the Adoption and Safe Families Act. In addition, Judge Howze served as a consultant on diversity issues to the newspaper industry and conducted EEO investigations as a contractor investigator.

Between 2001 and 2002, she was a staff member specializing in adolescent health issues at the American Bar Association Center on Children in the Law where she was the principal writer/editor of "Health for Teens in Care: a Judge's Guide." Judge Howze is also the author of "Making Differences Work: Cultural Context in Abuse and Neglect Practice," which was published by the American Bar Association, Center on Children and the Law in 1996.

Judge Howze is an adoptive mother of three adult daughters.