

**THE HONORABLE RUFUS G. KING, III**  
**CHIEF JUDGE**  
**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Chief Judge Rufus G. King, III was appointed to the Superior Court in 1984 by President Ronald Reagan. Reappointed in 1999, he has served in the Criminal, Civil, and Family Court Divisions. From January 1994 to January 1997, he served as Deputy Presiding Judge of the Civil Division, and he served as Presiding Judge from January 1997 to January 1999. Chief Judge King was designated Chief Judge for a four-year term effective September 29, 2000. On October 1, 2004, the Judicial Nomination Commission designated Chief Judge King to serve a second four-year term as Chief Judge.

Chief Judge King was born in New Haven, Connecticut on June 16, 1942 and grew up in the Washington area, where he attended the Landon School. In 1966, he received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University. He received his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 1971 and was admitted to the District of Columbia Bar in that year. He was admitted to the Supreme Court Bar in 1975 and the Maryland State Bar in 1984.

Following law clerkships with the late Judge Austin L. Fickling and Judge William C. Pryor, Chief Judge King entered the private practice of law with various small firms, focusing on general litigation in area state and federal courts. He ultimately formed a partnership with his father, Rufus King, Jr., which later merged with Berliner and Maloney.

Before joining the Court, Chief Judge King chaired and served on numerous committees of the District of Columbia Bar, presenting numerous panels on arbitration at annual meetings of the Bar and the District of Columbia Judicial Conferences. He also helped organize the Fee Arbitration Board, serving as a founding member and the Board's first chair.

On the Court, Chief Judge King has chaired several committees, including the Superior Court Child Support Guidelines Committee (1988-1989); the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (1994 to 1995); and the Committee on Technology and Automation (from inception in 1986 to September 2000). Through the Committee on Technology and Automation and other efforts, he has been a major contributor to the Court's technology development efforts.

Chief Judge King was a founding member of the District of Columbia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and currently co-chairs the court Information Technology Advisory Committee with Judge Brook Hedge. Outside of the courthouse, he serves on the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts, and he is President of the National Conference of Metropolitan Courts. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, the Washington Bar Association, and the American Law Institute, where he organized and served on the Judges' Advisory Group on a project to develop Principles of the Law of Family Dissolution, published in 2002.

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