

Honorable Vivian Henderson

Judge Vivian Henderson received her B.S. in Psychology from the College of William and Mary, and her Juris Doctor from Regent University School of Law. Judge Henderson was licensed to practice law in Virginia in 1996, after passing the bar on her first attempt. Since beginning her law career, she has worked in the Commonwealth's Attorney Offices in the Cities of Portsmouth, Virginia and Virginia Beach, Virginia, as well as the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia, where she was dual designated as a Special Assistant United States Attorney. Judge Henderson has also served as an Adjunct Professor for Averett University, Bryant and Stratton College as well as Strayer University. In 2015, she became the 1st African American appointed to serve as a Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia where she served in that capacity overseeing the Special Investigations Trial Team, Victim Witness Program and the Adult Drug Court. She has held various leadership roles in civic and professional organizations in addition to being appointed by 2 Virginia Supreme Court Justices to serve on the Virginia Supreme Court Domestic Violence Commission. On November 13, 2020, Judge Henderson was appointed to serve as a General District Court Judge for the City of Virginia Beach where her term commenced on December 1, 2020.

Judge Henderson is a proud Life Member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated where she currently serves as the Eastern Region Zeta Male Network Coordinator and the President & Youth Advisor of the Beta Alpha Omicron Zeta Chapter of Chesapeake, VA. In addition to serving in her community, she is a member of the South Hampton Roads Bar Association and Old Dominion Bar Association and its Judicial Council where she serves as Secretary. She is currently a member of the American Judges Association. She is a member of the Virginia Association of Women Judges as well as the National Association of Women Judges where she serves on the Ensuring Racial Equity Committee. She also is a member of the Association of District Court Judges where she serves as an at large director on the board of directors. Additionally, Judge Henderson serves on the Executive Committee for the Policy Advisory Board of Chesapeake Bay ASAP. Judge Henderson is also on the Community Advisory Policy Board for the Alzheimer's AHEAD Study. For Judge Henderson, this quote from Edward Everett Hale, with her faith, is her life's driving force... "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."