



Judge Shauna Dunnings was elected to the Ingham County Probate Court in 2018, making history as the first woman and first African American to serve as a Probate Judge in Ingham County. She presides over family law and probate matters, as well as the Phoenix Treatment Court, a specialty court dedicated to supporting youth with histories of sexual abuse, exploitation, and/or commercial sex trafficking.

Before her election to the bench, Judge Dunnings held several leadership roles in the judiciary, including Assistant Friend of the Court and Attorney Referee in Eaton County, Friend of the Court and Deputy Court

Administrator in Ingham County, and Circuit Court Administrator in Ingham County. She also clerked for Judge Gordon Quist of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan and spent over a decade in private practice.

Committed to advancing the legal profession, Judge Dunnings actively participates in numerous professional organizations. She serves on the Michigan Supreme Court Commission on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion in the Michigan Judiciary, is the Vice President of the Michigan Probate Judges Association Board of Directors, and is a member of the State Bar of Michigan Probate and Estate Planning Section Council.

Judge Dunnings earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Michigan and her Juris Doctorate from Howard University School of Law. She is married to Stuart Chavis, and they have two adult children.