

## **Judge Julie A. Robinson Award for Outstanding Community Leadership**

Each year the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Kansas recognizes a distinguished leader in the community by presenting the Judge Julie A. Robinson Award for Outstanding Community Leadership. Recipients of this award have these qualities:

*Demonstrates admirable character* by exhibiting humility, professionalism, compassion, unbiased temperament, and ethics.

*Serves others* by teaching the local community about the legal system, serving the underserved or underprivileged, or positively impacting the relationship between the federal court system and the local community.

This award was named after Judge Julie A. Robinson because of the significant contributions she made to the legal profession and community as a lawyer, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, and U.S. District Judge.

Judge Robinson began her exemplary public service as a law clerk for U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Benjamin E. Franklin in 1981. Then she worked as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for 10 years, handling both civil and criminal cases. Judge Robinson was appointed as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for the District of Kansas in 1994, and she served as a Judge on the U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panel of the Tenth Circuit from 1996 to 2001. In 2001, she was appointed as a U.S. District Judge, and she was the District Court's Chief Judge from 2017 to 2021.

Judge Robinson has also served the federal judiciary in a variety of other capacities. She has been the Chair of the Court Administration and Case Management Committee of the United States Judicial Conference, Chair of the District Court Judges Benchbook Committee, a Commissioner of the United States Supreme Court Fellows program, and a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. Judge Robinson was also a member of the Federal Judiciary Workplace Conduct Working Group, where she recommended improvements to "ensure a safe, respectful, and professional environment for all court employees."

Judge Robinson also serves the broader community. She has been an adjunct faculty member at the University of Kansas law school and president of its Board of Governors. She was elected to the American Law Institute, and has served on the Board of Trustees of the American Inns of Court Foundation. She chaired the Board of Healing House of Kansas City, a non-profit that has provided transitional housing for more than 8,000 women and men after they completed substance abuse treatment.

In 2015, she was inducted into the Emily Taylor Center for Women and Gender Equity because, as one nominator described her, "Judge Robinson models the highest standards of integrity, intellectual rigor, fair treatment, and considered, thoughtful handling of the people and the legal issues that come before her court. Throughout her legal career she has upheld the highest standards of the profession and modeled professional excellence for the many lawyers who have worked with her and appeared in her court."

For these reasons, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court also presented its inaugural award to Judge Robinson in May 2022.

If you would like to nominate someone to receive this award, send a nomination to [David.Zimmerman@ksb.uscourts.gov](mailto:David.Zimmerman@ksb.uscourts.gov). When sending a nomination, please include this information:

1. Full Name of the Nominee:
2. Contact Information of the Nominee (address and telephone number):
3. Full Name of the Person Submitting the Nomination:
4. Contact Information of the Person Submitting the Nomination (address and telephone number):
5. A brief description of the ways that the nominee has demonstrated admirable character and community service.