

Paulette Brown
Partner & Chief Diversity Officer
Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP

Paulette Brown is a partner in the New Jersey office of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP and is a member of the Firm's Labor & Employment Group and the Firm's first Chief Diversity Officer. Throughout her career of practicing in excess of 30 years, Paulette has held a number of positions, including in house counsel to a number of fortune 500 companies and as a Municipal Court Judge. For the past 20 years, she has focused her practice on labor and employment matters. She has litigated a variety of employment matters, including, but not limited to, class actions, sexual harassment, marital status, WARN, race and age discrimination and issues pertaining to FMLA. Paulette is also experienced in all aspects of workplace training and collective bargaining.

Paulette litigates in both federal and state courts and arbitration forums for both unionized and non-union employees. Paulette is a certified mediator for the United States District Court, District of New Jersey and a AAA panel member. She is a frequent lecturer on labor and employment issues and issues related to electronic discovery and serves as Secretary of Committee of the Labor and Employment Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association. Paulette has been recognized by the New Jersey Law Journal as one of the prominent women and minority attorneys in the State of New Jersey.

Paulette is immediate past President of the YWCA of Central New Jersey, which in the Fall of 2006, opened a twenty-four hour a day, seven day a week, early childhood learning center. One of Paulette's proudest moments was when she led a delegation to monitor the first free and democratic elections in South Africa in 1994. Paulette is a past President of the National Bar Association and the Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey. She serves on the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession and co-chaired the report, "Visible Invisibility: Women of Color In Law Firms".

As a result of her charitable efforts and work with various bar associations, Paulette has received numerous awards, including the Medal of Honor Award from the New Jersey Bar Foundation and the Equal Justice Award from the National Bar Association. She has also received from the New Jersey Commission on Professionalism, its Professional Lawyer of the Year Award. In February, 2007, she received the American Bar Association's Spirit of Excellence Award and in May, 2007, Paulette received the NJ NAACP's Trailblazer Award. In May, 2008, she was identified by the National Law Journal as one of The 50 Most Influential Minority Lawyers in America.

Paulette speaks extensively on diversity issues, particularly those related to women and women of color in law firms.