

**The Honorable Norma L. Shapiro**  
**United States District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania**

Judge Shapiro was appointed to the United States District Court by President Jimmy Carter on August 11, 1978, and was the first woman judge to sit in the Third Circuit. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she was in private practice with the Dechert law firm (partner 1973-1978). Judge Shapiro holds a B.A. degree with honors in Political Theory from the University of Michigan (1948), and a J.D. degree Magna Cum Laude from the University of Pennsylvania (1951). On graduation, she served as a law clerk to Justice Horace Stern, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and then was an instructor in Law and Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Judge Shapiro has served on the Judicial Conference Committee on Court Administration (1983-1987), the District Judges' Association (President), the Lawyers Advisory Panel to the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women. She chaired the Philadelphia Bar Association's Women's Rights Committee, and was the first woman on the Association's Board of Governors and its first female Chairperson.

A long-standing member of the American Bar Association (ABA), Judge Shapiro currently serves as a member of the Standing Committee on Judicial Independence (2007-2010), the John Marshall Award Selection Committee (2007-2010), and is ABA Representative to the Board of Directors of the Appellate Judges Education Institute (2006-2010). She has also served on the Standing Committee on Professional Discipline (2006-2007). In 2004, Judge Shapiro was appointed ABA Representative to the United States Access Board's Courthouse Access Advisory Committee (2004-2006); she also became the Judicial Division representative to the ABA Board of Governors (2004-2006); she served as Chair of the Program & Planning Committee (2005-2006). As a member of the ABA Standing Committee on Judicial Independence and its Advisory Committee (1998-2001), she served as Chair of the Coordinating Council of the ABA Justice Center and the ABA Judicial Division Program Committee. She was Chair of the ABA Conference of Federal Trial Judges and its delegate to the House of Delegates; as a representative of the Judicial Division to the Section Officers Conference, she served as Chair of the 1997 Section Officers Conference. Judge Shapiro was Chair of the ABA Judicial Division (1996-97) and served on the Judicial Division Council.

Judge Shapiro is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) and is Chair of its Leadership Development & Recruitment Committee. She is a member of the PBA Commission on Women in the Profession (WIP) and Co-Chairs the 2009-2010 Governance Committee. She has also served as Co-Chair of the 2008-2009 Nominating Committee and the Awards Committee; she is a member of the 2009-2010 Awards Committee. She has also served as a member of the House of Delegates of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Judge Shapiro is a member of the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) and served on its Board of Directors (1994-2000). She also served on the NAWJ Federal Judges Committee and Judicial Academic Network/Judicial Education Committee (2004-05). She Co-Chaired the 1993 and 2007 NAWJ Annual Conferences.

Judge Shapiro has been active in professional, religious, and community service organizations and has served as a member and President of the Board of School Directors, Lower Merion School Board, member and President of the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Publication Society, Vice-President of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Philadelphia, Trustee of the Albert Einstein Medical Center, and member of the Board of Overseers of the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

In addition to being a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania (1996), Judge Shapiro is a recipient of the American Bar Association John Marshall Award (2006), the Meador-Rosenberg Award (2003), and the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award given by the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession (1999). She has been recognized by the National Association of Women Judges as Honoree of the Year (1993) and with the Excellence in Service Award (2003). Judge Shapiro was the first recipient of the Philadelphia Bar Association Sandra Day O'Connor Award (1993). She received the University of Pennsylvania Law Alumni Society Distinguished Service Award (1994), the Federal Bar Association Bill of Rights Award (1991), and was named Woman of the Year by the Oxford Circle Jewish Community Center and Woman of Distinction by the Golden Slipper Club (1979). She is a member of the Cheltenham High School Hall of Fame.