

Judge Gayle P. Roberts

Judge Gayle P. Roberts was first appointed to the New York City Family Court bench in 1997 by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. She was reappointed in January of 2006 by Mayor Michael Bloomberg. She has been assigned to Bronx County since her initial appointment. For approximately twelve years, she was assigned to hear child protective proceedings, including abuse, neglect and termination of parental rights cases. Currently Judge Roberts presides over a juvenile delinquency part.

Judge Roberts was elected President of the New York State Family Court Judges Association in 2005. As President, one of her goals was to increase awareness of the disproportionate representation of minority children in the foster care and juvenile justice systems. She was instrumental in hosting a day long program at the New York State Judicial Institute which brought together judges, attorneys, professors, mental health professionals and community leaders to examine strategies to reduce disproportionality.

Since then, she has endeavored to keep the issue of disproportionality at the forefront in the court system. She has presented on the issue of disproportionality at the National Center for State Courts Chief Justices' Summit in Austin, Texas, and at the annual conference of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in San Diego CA and Cambridge MD.

In October 2014, Judge Roberts was named Family Court Judge of the Year by the New York State Family Court Judges Association. The Metropolitan Black Bar Association named her Jurist of the Year in 2011. She has received numerous other awards including the Ivan Warner Community Service award from the Black Bar Association of Bronx County and a Distinguished Service award from the CUNY Black Law Students Association in 2011.

Judge Roberts is the chairperson of an interdisciplinary group of advocates and other players involved with child welfare cases in the Bronx that is working to develop and implement strategies for reducing disproportionality.

Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Roberts was an assistant district attorney in Bronx County. Judge Roberts graduated with honors from Tulane University School of Law and the University of Pittsburgh.