

Judge Michele M. Christiansen



Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award *For the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession*

Judge Michele M. Christiansen was appointed to the Utah Court of Appeals in June 2010 by Governor Gary Herbert. Prior to her appointment, Judge Christiansen had been serving as a Third District Court Judge since May 2007.

Judge Christiansen received her law degree from the University of Utah College of Law in 1995. She then served as a judicial law clerk for one year with the Honorable Tena Campbell, United States District Court Judge for the District of Utah, following which she joined the Salt Lake law firm of Parsons Behle & Latimer. In March 1998, Judge Christiansen joined the United State Attorney's Office, District of Utah, as an Assistant United States Attorney. In January 2005, she was appointed executive director of the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice and in July of 2006, Judge Christiansen became general counsel to Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. During her tenure in the Governor's Office, Judge Christiansen chaired and served on many committees and councils focusing on violence against women, sexual assault, substance abuse, and children's justice issues.

Judge Christiansen is an adjunct professor at the University of Utah S. J. Quinney College of Law, and currently serves as Co-chair of the Utah State Bar's Pro Bono Commission. She also serves on the Executive Board of Women Lawyers of Utah, on the Salt Lake County Bar Association Executive Committee, on the Utah State Bar's Appellate Practice Section Board, as a member of the Utah Sentencing Commission, the Judicial Council's Ethics Advisory Committee, and as chair of the Judicial Council's Commissioner Conduct Committee.

2017 Spring Convention Awards

Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award

For the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

2016	Barbara G. Hjelle
2015	Patrice Arent
2014	Terrie McIntosh
2013	Charlotte L. Miller
2012	Judge Sandra N. Peuler
2011	Lauren I. Scholnick
2010	Evelyn J. Furse Lisa A. Yerkovich Melanie J. Vartabedian
2009	Judge Carolyn B. McHugh
2008	Constance Lundberg Susan Peterson
2007	Irene Warr
2006	Janet H. Smith
2005	Annette W. Jarvis
2004	Paul M. Warner
2003	Denise Dragoo
2002	Hon. Pamela T. Greenwood
2001	Laura M. Gray
2000	Katherine D. Pullins
1999	Rosalie M. Reilly
1998	James B. Lee
1997	Anne Milne
1996	Patricia W. Christensen
1995	Hon. Christine M. Durham

2017 Spring Convention Awards

Judge Vernice S. Trease



Raymond S. Uno Award *For the Advancement of Minorities in the Legal Profession*

Judge Vernice S. Trease was appointed to the Third District Court in November 2006 by Gov. Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. She serves Salt Lake, Summit and Tooele counties.

Judge Trease graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations from Lewis and Clark College and received a law degree from the University of Utah College of Law in 1988. Prior to her appointment to the bench, Judge Trease served the community of Salt Lake County as a trial attorney, capital qualified attorney, and assistant director with the Salt Lake Legal Defender Assoc. Judge Trease has served on several committees including the Utah Commission on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in Criminal and Juvenile Justice System, and the State of Utah Office on Domestic and Sexual Violence Domestic Violence Justice Planning Group, Judicial Council's Fine and Bail Schedule Standing Committee, Supreme Court's Indigent Criminal Defense Task Force and as chairperson of the Judicial Council's Court Interpreter Standing Committee. She is currently a member of the Supreme Court's Advisory Committees on the Rules of Criminal Procedure and the Rules of Evidence, Utah Center for Legal Inclusion, Utah Sentencing Commission, and Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council.

Judge Trease is the recipient of several awards including the Women Lawyers of Utah Woman Lawyer of the Year, the Women Lawyers of Utah Mentor Award given and the Utah Minority Bar Association Community Service Award. Judge Trease also presides over one of two Mental Health Courts in the Third District.

2017 Spring Convention Awards

Raymond S. Uno Award

For the Advancement of Minorities in the Legal Profession

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

2016	Reyes Aguilar Jr. Carl Hernandez III
2015	Andrea Martinez Griffen
2014	Janise K. Macanas
2013	Cecilia M. Romero
2012	David Dominguez
2011	Nathan D. Alder
2010	Trystan B. Smith
2009	Cheryl Miyuki Mori
2008	Su J. Chon
2007	Judge Glen Iwasaki
2006	Mona Burton
2005	Cheryl D. Luke
2004	Marlene Gonzalez
2003	F. John Hill
2002	Robert L. Flores
2001	Hon. Tyrone E. Medley
2000	Sherrie Hayashi
1999	Jimi Mitsunaga
1998	Hon. Raymond Uno
1997	Michael N. Martinez
1996	John Martinez
1995	Hon. William A. Thorne, Jr.

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