



Judge Toya T. Harvey

Luke 12:48 says, “For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required.” This is the life principal of Judge Toya T. Harvey. Judge Harvey, a lifelong resident of the Chicago Southland, is a proven person of scholarship, service and integrity. As a Judge of the Circuit Court of Cook County assigned to the First Municipal District, Judge Harvey presides over cases in the Forcible Entry and Detainer Division, commonly known as Eviction, located at the Daley Center in downtown Chicago.

Since her appointment to the bench by Illinois Supreme Court on the nomination of Justice Anne Burke in March 2017, Judge Harvey received an appointment to a subcommittee of the Illinois Supreme Court. She also serves as a community speaker with the Illinois Judicial Council, the Black Judges organization. Before taking the bench, Judge Harvey was an Assistant Public Defender with the Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender for over 20 years. Having represented clients in the First Municipal District, the Child Protection Division and the Sixth Municipal District, Judge Harvey ended her public defender career as a member of the Suburban Homicide Taskforce. She is a graduate of Western Illinois University where she received a Bachelor’s of Art in Pre-Law Honors/Political Science and was a member of the Order of Omega and the Mortar Board, both collegiate honor societies. She also graduated with a Juris Doctorate from the Boyd College of Law at the University of Iowa. While in law school she was a member of the Iowa Law Review and served as a local, regional and national officer/committee chairman in the Black Law Student Association and a Lieutenant Governor for Minority Affairs in the American Bar Association-Law Student Division.

In addition to her work in the legal arena, Judge Harvey is a public servant and proven leader who has worked to forge the paths of leadership in her community as well. She is a Life Member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and has served and continues to serve the sorority on the chapter, regional and international level currently serving as a member of one of its international committees and traveling across the country presenting on its behalf. She has served on various boards in the Greater Chicago Area including serving as the Board Chairman for Family Christian Healthcare Center, FQHC, Executive Board member for the juvenile diversion organization, Life Choices We Make and Community Relations Coordinator for and Troop Leader with the Country Club Hills Girl Scouts. Judge Harvey also holds members in the Illinois Judges Association, Illinois Judicial Council, Black Women Lawyers Association, Cook County Bar Association, South Suburban Bar Association, NAACP and Democratic Women of South Suburbs. She is a community speaker and a mentor. She is also a faithful member of Cornerstone Christian Center.

A former All-American Athlete, Judge Harvey enjoys sports, fishing, reading and, most importantly, being the mother of two outstanding young ladies of leadership and service, Morgan and Taylor.