

Justice Nathaniel Roosevelt Howse

Born in a small town in Tennessee, Justice Nathaniel Roosevelt Howse attended segregated schools while his family suffered under Jim Crow. Despite earning a Master's Degree, the only job his father could find was the overnight shift at a bomb factory.

Justice Howse and his family became part of the Great Migration of African-American families from the South to Chicago.

Working days and studying nights, his father earned a law degree and went on to practice law here in Chicago.

Following in his father's footsteps, Justice Howse became an attorney as well. He focused on election law to ensure that underdogs who wanted their voice heard weren't knocked off the ballot by the Cook County machine.

Justice Howse was a lead attorney for the Harold Washington Party, where he worked to ensure that candidates from every community had a fair shot to run for office.

He was elected to the Cook County Circuit Court in 1998, where he served with distinction until 2009, when Howse became a Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court, where he still serves.

He received his undergraduate and law degrees from Loyola University of Chicago and lives with his wife, Patricia Howse, in Chicago.