

### **Patrick D. John's BIO**

I was raised to appreciate and respect all races, ethnicities and religions. I was born in Guyana, South America. Guyana is known around the World as being the place where the terrible Jim Jones tragedy occurred many years ago. Guyana is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere, but it is rich with natural resources, and has great diversity. In Guyana, the whole country celebrates the important holidays of Christians, Muslims and Hindus.

I live in the Austin neighborhood on Chicago's Westside. Austin is known for it's high crime rate, high poverty rate and an alarming high school drop out rate. Austin is a neighborhood where many of the "least of these" live. By living in Austin, it keeps me ever mindful that there are so many people who have fallen through the cracks, and who need to be heard.

When I was 4 years old my family came to America, and we lived in New York City for many years, where I attended high school and college. I served in the U.S. Coast Guard for 7 years and left at the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade. After moving to Illinois and attending law school at Chicago-Kent College of Law, I became an attorney in 1998. I've handled mostly civil cases involving family law, landlord/tenant, employment discrimination, breach of contract and general civil litigation. Most of my clients have been working class people who struggle hard to make a living—not wealthy people. I've seen how the legal process can be expensive and frustrating for them. As a judge, I would do my best to dispense justice fairly and efficiently.