



The Honorable Phyllis Gorham, Chair

The Honorable Phyllis Gorham was appointed to the N.C. Dispute Resolution Commission by Chief Justice Cheri Beasley on October 1, 2019, as a superior court judge, for a term expiring on September 30, 2022. Judge Gorham was appointed chair of the Commission by Chief Justice Beasley on October 1, 2020 for a term expiring on September 30, 2022.

Judge Phyllis Gorham is Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for the Fifth Judicial District, New Hanover, and Pender Counties. She was appointed by Governor Michael Easley in 2007 and elected in 2008. She served as District Court Judge from 2005-2007 in New Hanover and Pender Counties.

She received her law degree from North Carolina Central University School of Law, and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Before taking the bench, Judge Gorham was an Assistant District Attorney in the 6th Prosecutorial District (New Hanover and Pender Counties), an attorney for Legal Aid of North Carolina in Durham, NC, an Interim Assistant Police Attorney for the Durham Police Department and an associate attorney in private practice in Goldsboro, NC.

Judge Gorham is a member of the North Carolina State Bar, the 6th Judicial District Bar, and the North Carolina Bar Association.

She is a graduate of the National Judicial College General Jurisdiction Course. A recipient of the North Carolina Women of Achievement Award. And a graduate of the North Carolina Center for Women in Public Service Summer Institute.

Judge Gorham currently serves as the Chair of the Dispute Resolution Commission and is the current President of the North Carolina Conference of Superior Court Judges. She has served as a vice-president of the North Carolina Bar Association, board member on the North Carolina Rural Courts Commission, Chair of the New Hanover County Department of Social Services board of Directors, President and Secretary/Treasurer of the 6th Judicial District Bar, and has served on several other boards in the community.

Her hometown is Fountain (Pitt County), North Carolina.