



INVESTITURE
OF

Cheri Beasley

CHIEF JUSTICE
SUPREME COURT OF
NORTH CAROLINA



2:00 P.M.
MARCH 7, 2019

SUPREME COURT OF
NORTH CAROLINA
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

CHIEF JUSTICE CHERI BEASLEY

SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA



As the Court commemorates its 200th Anniversary, Cheri Beasley becomes the first African-American woman to serve as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. Beasley's judicial career spans two decades, beginning in 1999 with her appointment as a District Court Judge in the Twelfth Judicial District by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. She served ten years in that position, elected in 2002 and in 2006. In 2008, Beasley was elected to serve as an Associate Judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals, making her the first African-American woman elected in *any* statewide election without an initial appointment by the Governor. After four years on the Court of Appeals, she was appointed to the Supreme Court of North Carolina by Governor Beverly Perdue, and subsequently won election to that position in 2014. At the time of her appointment, she was only the sixth woman and only the second African-American woman to serve on the State's highest court.

Beasley's commitment to serve North Carolina extends far beyond the halls of justice. She mentors countless young people and reads at a local elementary school weekly. She lectures at area law schools. She promotes the rule of law and the administration of justice in lectures throughout the United States, Europe, Egypt, and the Caribbean, emphasizing the importance of an independent judiciary and fair judicial selection. Beasley has served in a number of leadership roles in the North Carolina Bar Association including, as vice-president, as a member of the Litigation Section Council, Women in the Profession Committee, and Awards and Recognitions Committee. She has also served as a member of the N.C. Bar Foundation Endowment Committee and the American Bar Association Standing Committee for Legal Aid and Indigent Defense.

Beasley is the recipient of many awards and honors including the Fayetteville State University Chancellor's Medallion, the North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys' Gwyneth B. Davis Award, The University of Tennessee Knoxville Trailblazer Award, as well as inductions into The Douglass Society, the highest honor bestowed by Douglass College of Rutgers University, and the Rutgers University African-American Alumni Alliance Hall of Fame.

Beasley earned a Master of Laws (L.L.M.) in Judicial Studies from Duke University School of Law and is a graduate of The University of Tennessee College of Law and Douglass College of Rutgers University. She and her husband, Curtis Owens, are the proud parents of twin sons, Thomas and Matthew, college freshmen. Their home church is First Baptist Church, Moore Street, Fayetteville. They are members of First Baptist Church, South Wilmington Street, Raleigh where Beasley serves on the Board of Trustees.

Sounding of the Gavel

AMY FUNDERBURK

Invocation

REV. DR. DUMAS A. HARSHAW, JR.

Welcome

SENIOR ASSOCIATE JUSTICE PAUL NEWBY

Special Remarks

WALTER HOLTON

CATHARINE BIGGS ARROWOOD

JOCELYN MITNAUL MALLETTE

Recognition of Governor

SENIOR ASSOCIATE JUSTICE PAUL NEWBY

Introduction

GOVERNOR ROY COOPER

Presentation of Commission

THE HONORABLE JOSHUA STEIN

Administration of Oath

SENIOR ASSOCIATE JUSTICE PAUL NEWBY

Remarks

CHIEF JUSTICE CHERI BEASLEY

Benediction

REV. DR. CURETON L. JOHNSON

Adjournment

AMY FUNDERBURK

Reception following ceremony at City Club Raleigh



CHIEF JUSTICE
Cheri Beasley

ASSOCIATE JUSTICES
Paul M. Newby
Robin E. Hudson
Sam J. Ervin, IV
Michael R. Morgan
Anita Earls



COURT MOTTO
"Suum Cuique Tribuere"

"TO RENDER TO EVERYONE HIS OWN"
ONE OF THE THREE FUNDAMENTAL MAXIMS
OF THE LAW LAID DOWN BY JUSTINIAN

1819



2019

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