

**THE HONORABLE JOHN M. MOTT
ASSOCIATE JUDGE
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Judge John M. Mott was born in New York City and spent his childhood moving around the country, including attending junior high school in Tucson, Arizona and high school near Rochester, New York. He graduated from Dartmouth College with a Bachelor of Arts in History in 1981, where he was captain of the ski team, New England Woodsman competition team and individual champion, and a member of Casque and Gauntlet. Between college and law school, Judge Mott taught high school history for three years in New Hampshire, worked in Washington, D.C. at the National Council of La Raza and Neighborhood Legal Services, traveled extensively in South America, and worked in Japan. He graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 1988. In law school, Judge Mott supervised legal writing, led the successful effort for the University to divest from holdings in then-apartheid South Africa, and worked for a federal judge and for the United States Attorney's Office in Manhattan, at a law firm in Washington, DC, and for the Massachusetts Senate Ways and Means Committee.

Judge Mott has spent his entire professional career in public service and in the courtroom, working for individual liberty, civil rights, and justice. From 1988 – 1995, he represented indigent defendants as a staff attorney and supervisor at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS), a national leader in indigent defense. At PDS, Judge Mott tried cases and argued appeals and, during his last three years, handled primarily homicide cases and other serious felony matters and supervised junior attorneys.

From 1995 – 2000, Judge Mott prosecuted civil rights cases for the Criminal Section of the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice. As a Senior Trial Attorney and Deputy Chief at DOJ, Judge Mott investigated hate crime, police brutality and official misconduct, involuntary servitude, and other civil rights cases, prosecuted these often high profile matters in federal district courthouses around the country, and supervised trial attorneys. As Acting Chief of the Criminal Section, he supervised the daily operations of the Section, approved all prosecutions, helped to create the Task Force on Violence Against Health Care Providers, and worked on legislative matters including the Hate Crime bill. His numerous awards received at DOJ included a Special Achievement Award for his service as Acting Chief.

Judge Mott was appointed to the District of Columbia Superior Court bench by President Bill Clinton in 2000, and he was reappointed in 2015. For almost 17 years, he has handled a wide range of cases: juvenile; abuse and neglect; mental health; adoption; domestic violence; misdemeanor; felony (from drug distribution to homicide); post-conviction; and civil. He is currently assigned to a complex civil trial calendar.

Judge Mott has a depth of experience in handling trials and working with juries. In addition to trying and presiding over scores of jury trials, he has taught a class on The American Jury at George Washington Law School for almost 15 years, has taught a one week Trial Advocacy Workshop class at Harvard Law School for several years, serves of the Superior Court's Jury Committee, and served as a juror himself in Superior Court in 2007.