



Nina Ashenafi-Richardson

Nina Ashenafi-Richardson has served as a Leon County Judge in Tallahassee since 2008. She presides over both criminal and civil matters, and as acting circuit judge presiding over Felony Drug Court.

Prior to her election, she spent the majority of her career representing teachers and university faculty as in-house counsel with the Florida Education Association and as adjunct faculty at Barry University's Tallahassee campus.

Nina has distinguished herself as a first in many categories, including as the first Ethiopian-American judge in the United States and the first African-American elected president of the Tallahassee Women Lawyers and the Tallahassee Bar Association. She is also a former president of the William H. Stafford American Inn of Court. The Conference of County Court Judges of Florida awarded her the Distinguished Leadership Award in 2016, and she was also the recipient of the Florida Bar's 2019 Distinguished Judicial Service Award. Hard work and community service are hallmarks of Nina's life.

Since taking the bench, Nina has been appointed to serve on statewide committees intended to improve access to the courts for all people, improve the judicial education of judge's around the state, and promote ethical conduct by members of the judiciary. Some of those appointments include serving on the Judicial Ethics Advisory Committee, the Judicial Management Council, the Florida Court Education Council, the Mediation Training Review Board, and the Commission on Access to Civil Justice subcommittee. Nina annually teaches at three judges conferences around the State, including Advanced Judicial College and the Conference of County Court Judges.

Judge Nina Ashenafi-Richardson is married to City Commissioner Curtis Richardson, and the mother of two daughters, Carina and Aida.

Watch the video presented at the 2020 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony of Kelly Overstreet Johnson speaking on behalf of Nina Ashenafi-Richardson [HERE](#).