

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
DECEMBER 2017 FAIRFAX JUVENILE & DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT
COURT JUDICIAL SCREENING

DONNA R. BANKS

Donna Banks resides in Fairfax, Virginia, with her husband and daughter. Ms. Banks received her B.A. degree from the University of Virginia in 1986, and her J.D. from Howard University in 1992.

Ms. Banks served as a Magistrate in Fairfax County from 1993–1999. She was Special Counsel in the Commonwealth of Virginia Attorney General’s Office in the Division of Child Support Enforcement from 1999-2001, practicing in Northern Virginia Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts in all aspects of child support enforcement. Ms. Banks has served as an Assistant County Attorney for Fairfax County since November 2001, representing the Department of Family Services, Child Protective Services, Foster Care, Adoption Adult Protective Services and Community Services Board.

EXPERIENCE AND LEGAL ABILITY

Ms. Banks has spent a great deal of her career managing litigation involving the abuse and neglect of children and adults, foster care placement, and the termination of parental rights. Her practice also includes the preparation of petitions, motions and orders for the burial of unclaimed bodies, litigation concerning the Comprehensive Services Act and Community Services Board. Although she has demonstrated competence in these areas, the Committee remains concerned about her limited scope of practice. The Committee is further concerned that Ms. Banks fails to meet the requisite experience for this position.

FAIRNESS AND TEMPERAMENT

The Committee has reservations as to whether Ms. Banks has the proper temperament to be a judge.

PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY

Although we do not have concerns about her ethical standards, the Committee found that Ms. Banks failed to express her qualifications in a manner so as to avoid misapprehension.

OVERALL EVALUATION

The Committee finds that Ms. Banks does not meet the requirements to serve as a judge on the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court at this time.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: NOT FOUND QUALIFIED