

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
SEPTEMBER 2024 FAIRFAX GENERAL DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL SCREENING

TAMIKA DAWN JONES

Ms. Jones resides in the Alexandria section of Fairfax County. She grew up in Amherst, Virginia and attended the University of Lynchburg (BS, 1998) and The Catholic University of America – Columbus School of Law (JD, 2008). Ms. Jones is admitted to all courts in Virginia as well as the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

EXPERIENCE AND LEGAL ABILITY

Since 2009, she has owned the Jones Practice, PLLC where she has represented private clients. Her law practice focuses on criminal defense and family law. She has experience in landlord/tenant, personal injury, contract review and/or disputes. She also serves as a Guardian *ad Litem*, a guardian/conservator for incapacitated adults, and defends individuals in civil commitment hearings. She also represents parties in custody and visitation cases, child support proceedings and divorce trials. Prior to her legal career, Ms. Jones was a Fair Housing Inspector with the Virginia Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation and a pre-trial case officer and probation officer. Since July 2021, she has served as a substitute judge in the General District Court and the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for Fairfax County, where she has obtained additional experience with traffic and other cases. She also presides as a substitute judge in Prince William County GDC and JDR, as well as Arlington JDR and Alexandria JDR.

FAIRNESS AND TEMPERAMENT

Ms. Jones has a diverse professional and personal background that would be an asset to the broad array of individual litigants who would appear before her. She displayed a warm, approachable and professional demeanor. Ms. Jones demonstrated an ability to handle the responsibilities of the bench in a compassionate, effective and efficient manner for all litigants as demonstrated by her effective stewardship of the various JDR benches, with strong legal ability and knowledge.

PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY

Ms. Jones exhibited a professional attitude and demeanor throughout her interview. The Committee was impressed with her work ethic and her aspiration to improve the legal system. The Committee was impressed with Ms. Jones's position as Virginia State Bar Council representing the 19th District (Fairfax County) and involvement with the Fairfax Bar Association. Additionally, the Committee was impressed by Ms. Jones's longstanding service to the Alexandria Bar Association, as its President from 2020-2021, when it was selected Bar Association of the year under her leadership, and membership since 2009. She is a member of the Northern Virginia Black Attorneys Association and other local bar associations.

OVERALL EVALUATION

The Committee was impressed with Ms. Jones's experience as a substitute judge in the General District Court and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts. Ms. Jones exceeds the minimum ABA requirements for integrity, legal knowledge, professional experience, judicial temperament, diligence, health, financial responsibility, and public service.

It was the opinion of the Judicial Screening Committee that Ms. Jones's legal experience, temperament and diversity of life experiences make her recommended to serve as a judge in the General District Court of Fairfax County.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDED