

After nearly 30 years on the bench, including the last 7 as the Administrative Judge for Howard County, Judge Gelfman retired, and continues to serve as “Senior Judge” to sit in all Circuit Courts. Judge Gelfman is certified for mediation in the Court of Special Appeals and all trial courts throughout Maryland.

In her many years on the bench, Judge Gelfman presided over a wide variety of cases and settlements. She is able to bring that experience to her role as a mediator, from matters involving family law, such as divorce, child support, child custody and property distribution, to matters involving the elderly, contracts, real estate, personal injury, business, employment, construction, guardianships and many related matters.

Before her appointment to the bench, Judge Gelfman was an Assistant State’s Attorney for Baltimore City, and then in private practice with her husband, Dick Gelfman, Esq. She is a former president of the Howard County Bar Association, and is a member of numerous professional and civic organizations. She also has been elected to numerous honors such as a Fellow of the Maryland Bar Foundation

Judge Gelfman is fluent in Spanish.

Memberships & Affiliations

Judicial Ethics Committee of the Maryland Judiciary
Member, Maryland State Bar Association
Past President and Member, Howard County Bar Association
Maryland and Howard County Women’s Bar Association
Past President Maryland Circuit Court Judges’ Association
Co-Chair, Family & Sexual Violence Coordinating Council of Howard County
Co-Chair, Drug Court Planning Team of Howard County
Past President Hon, James Macgill American Inns of Court
ABA Advisory Committee on Elder Abuse and Legal Problems of the Elderly
Member, American Bar Association
Co-Founder, Ride Across Maryland Foundation (cancer charity)
Past Board Member, United Cerebral Palsy of Central Maryland
Past Member, Maryland Trial Lawyers’ Association
Education Committee of Mediation & Conflict Resolution Center in Howard County

Education & Training

University of Baltimore School of Law, J.D., 1973

Boston University, B.A., 1969

ADR Training: 40 Hour Civil Mediation Training Maryland Judiciary.

ADR Training: Certified mediator for all family law matters, such as custody, child support, property distribution, alimony and the like.

ADR Training: Maryland Judiciary, 40 Hour Civil Mediation Training.

ADR Training: Certified mediator for guardianship matters

ASTAR Judge and Fellow – special training in complex science and technology cases

Course study, National Judicial College

Adjunct Professor, University of Baltimore School of Law, Trial Advocacy

Instructor, Maryland Judicial Institute

Instructor, New Bar Admitees Professionalism Course

Critiquer, Maryland State Bar Association Advocacy Course

Critiquer, University of Baltimore School of Law, Criminal Trial Institute

Honors

Elected as Fellow, Maryland State Bar Foundation (an honor bestowed on only 2% of Maryland's practicing attorneys).

Elected as Fellow, Howard County Bar Foundation.

Elected as Fellow, Maryland Womens' Bar Foundation, 2010, recognizing mentoring contributions to the legal profession.

Inducted into the 2015 Howard County Women's Hall of Fame , recognizing outstanding service to the community.

Recipient of Conny Sapp Award of Howard County Bar Association, for work on behalf of the Women's Bar Association and commitment to the community.

Women's Bar Foundation Bar Leader Award