

JUDGE MURIEL DIANE HUGHES

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

Judge Of The 3rd Judicial Circuit Court- Civil Division (2006 – Sept. 11, 2026):

- Circuit Court Judge - appointed by the Governor (2006)
- Elected and Re-elected to the Circuit Court (2008, 2010, 2016 and 2022)
- Business Court Judge-appointed by Supreme Court (2019-2026)
- Civil Division Judge (2014 – 2026)
- Family Division Judge (2006 – 2014)
- Rated “Outstanding” by Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association Judicial Committee
- Judge Hughes served on Michigan’s Solutions on Self-Help Task Force to expand coordinated assistance for self-represented individuals in 2010-2012.
- Women of the 3rd Circuit Court Historical Society Chairperson (2017 - 2020).
- Attorney Appointment Review Committee for Family Division (2008-2010).

ALTERNATIVE CASE RESOLUTION

- MI Judicial Alternate Dispute Resolution (MI-JADR): Neutral Facilitator and Arbitrator. (Oct 1, 2026-Present).
- Mediator for Mediation Tribunal Association 3rd Judicial Circuit Court (1989 – 1997).
- Mediator for Wayne County Probate Court (1993 – 2006).
- Facilitator Private Practice

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Invited speaker for ICLE, Michigan Judicial Institute, Oakland County Business Court Committee, Detroit Bar Association and Hispanic Bar Association, Wayne County Civil Bench.

EDUCATION

- University of Detroit School of Law, Detroit, MI – Juris Doctor (1983).
- St. Mary’s College, Notre Dame, IN – Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Philosophy (1980).
- University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN – 12 college credit hours (1977 – 1980).

LICENSES AND APPOINTMENTS

- State Bar of Michigan (1984 – Present).
- Michigan Real Estate Broker (1986 – 2010; escrowed after 2006).
- Real Estate Sales Person (1978 – 1986).
- Wayne County Public Administrator: Appointed by Attorney General (1989 – 2006).

LEGAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Michigan Judges Association: Elected Board Member, Civil/Business Committee (2018-2022).
- Society of Irish American Lawyers (ISIAL): Member since 1983 and Board Member (2008 – Present).
- Inn of Court 2017, 2023, 2024 and 2025 Team Leader mentoring young attorneys, through Detroit Bar Association and UD Mercy
- Detroit Bar Association: Member.
- University of Detroit Mercy Urban Law Clinic: Past Attorney Advisor.
- Wayne County Probate Bar Association (President 1997, Vice President 1996, Treasurer 1995, and Secretary 1994).

LEGAL EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO BENCH

Hughes & Hughes P.C. (1984 - 2006): Active full time private practice for 22 years, officer and shareholder. Specialized in litigation, civil and business law, real estate, probate and alternative case resolution. Represented businesses and individuals in a wide range of matters. Acted as a Public Administrator at the appointment of the Attorney General, with issues involving escheats, probate administration, foreign heirs, and difficult probate cases for the court (1987 – 2006).

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND AWARDS

- Alumna Achievement 2020 Award from Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame.
- Detroit Junior League: Member/volunteer over 20 years. Recipient of “Volunteer Extraordinaire Award”.
- ISIAL Charles R. Rutherford Jr. 2024 Award in recognition of integrity, compassion and courage rendering justice.
- Recipient of Spirit of Detroit Award in 2006 from Detroit City Council.
- Focus Hope Food Bank Volunteer with ISIAL.
- Past Board Member, Citizens of Wayne County Youth.

- Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Education Commission & Bible Study Leader.
- Detroit Rescue Mission- past volunteer.
- Holy Trinity Legal Clinic- past volunteer
- Christian Foundation for Children and Aging: Sponsor for child.
- Served on numerous campaign committees for political and judicial candidates prior to November of 2006.