



225th Anniversary
1789-2014



Deborah A. Batts

Born:

1947

Philadelphia, PA

Received Commission:

May 9, 1994

Deborah A. Batts was sworn in on June 23, 1994, by the Honorable Lawrence W. Pierce of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit as a United States District Court Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Judge Batts received her undergraduate degree from Radcliffe College in 1969 and graduated from Harvard Law School in 1972, whereupon she clerked for Judge Pierce, then a United States District Court Judge.

In 1973, Judge Batts became an associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore. In 1979, she became an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York in the Criminal Division. In 1984, Judge Batts joined the faculty at Fordham University School of Law; she became a tenured Associate Professor of Law in May, 1990.

She is currently a member of the CUNY School of Law Board of Visitors and the Board of Managers of the Havens Relief Fund Society.

In June 2001, Judge Batts was a Team Member of the Crowley Program in International Human Rights' Mission to Ghana to observe the impact on the status of women in the area of inheritance of PNDCL 111, passed in 1985.

In October, 2001, an oil portrait of Judge Batts by Simmie Knox, commissioned by the HSLA Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alumni/ae Committee, was unveiled at and presented to Harvard Law School. May 2004 to July 2006, Judge Batts was a Member of the Scientific Committee for the International Conference on LGBT Human Rights, in Montreal, Canada. Judge Batts was the Moderator at the Plenary Session on Canada and the United States and a Panelist in the Workshop "The Judicial Role in Protecting Human Rights".

Judge Batts was Conference Chairperson of the Second Circuit Judicial Conference in 2007 and 2008. August 2009 to present, she is Chair of the 2nd Circuit History Committee. Judge Batts served on the Judicial Conference Committee on Defender Services 2008-2014. Judge Batts and Judge P Kevin Castel are Co-Chairs of the 225th Anniversary Committee.