



225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
1789-2014



## Katherine Polk Failla

**Born:**  
1969  
Edison, NJ

**Received Commission:**  
March 5, 2013

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Katherine Polk Failla was appointed to the Southern District bench on March 5, 2013, and entered on duty on March 28, 2013. Judge Failla graduated summa cum laude from the College of William & Mary in 1990 and cum laude from Harvard Law School in 1993, where she served as Articles Editor and Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy. From 1993 to 1994, Judge Failla clerked for the Honorable Joseph E. Irenas, United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

Following her clerkship, Judge Failla worked as an associate in the Securities Litigation and Enforcement practice group of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP. At Morgan Lewis, she devoted substantial time to pro bono matters, including the representation of clients in immigration and family court proceedings. In 2000, Judge Failla joined the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. While an Assistant United States Attorney, she participated in numerous panels addressing issues of criminal law and attorney ethics. In 2004, Judge Failla was appointed a Deputy Chief of the Criminal Appeals Unit, and in 2008, she was appointed Chief of that unit, a position she held until her appointment to the bench.

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