

## **JUDGE CATHLEEN B. CLARKE**

Eighteenth Judicial Circuit  
Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore Justice Center  
2825 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Viera, Florida 32940  
(321) 617-7266



The Honorable Cathleen B. Clarke was first appointed to the county court bench in 1998 by Governor Lawton Chiles. In 2001, Judge Clarke was elected by her peers to serve as the county court administrative judge.

A native Floridian, Judge Clarke was raised in the Tampa Bay area and graduated from Notre Dame Academy, known today as St. Petersburg Catholic High School. Judge Clarke attended the University of Florida, where her mother, the late Johnnie Ruth Clarke, had previously distinguished herself as the first African American woman to earn a doctorate degree from a Florida public university. Her father, the late St. Petersburg dentist Dr. J.L. Clarke, was also a trailblazing African American and the source of great pride and inspiration.

Judge Clarke received her bachelor's degree from the University of Florida in 1975, and subsequently received her Juris Doctor from the University of Florida School of Law in 1979. Following law school, Judge Clarke served as an assistant state attorney, assistant public defender, and part-time instructor at Brevard Community College's Law Enforcement Academy.

In 2003, Judge Clarke was recognized by the National Association for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) for her work establishing the first mental health court in Brevard County.

Judge Clarke has served on numerous boards and committees including The Haven, American Red Cross, and the Commission on Mental Health and Community Solutions. She currently serves on the board of directors of Crosswinds, Inc. and the Brevard County Bar Judicial Liaison Committee.

Since 1998, Judge Clarke has run unopposed to retain her judicial seat. Judge Clarke has one daughter and resides in Melbourne, Florida.