

Honorable Mary Jane Bowes

Since 2001, the Honorable Mary Jane Bowes has served as a judge on the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. During that time, Judge Bowes has been a fierce advocate for increased transparency in the operation of the court. An elected member of the American Law Institute, she was appointed by the Supreme Court to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the Appellate Courts Procedural Rules Committee, and the Pennsylvania Commission on Judicial Independence, which she chairs. Judge Bowes lectures widely throughout the Commonwealth on appellate practice. She has served on the boards of numerous charitable, civic, and educational organizations, including the Bloomsburg University Council of Trustees, where she is a former trustee, past chair, and a proud Honorary Alumna. Judge Bowes earned her bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where she is the immediate past chair of the Alumni Association. Upon graduation, she clerked for the Supreme and Superior Courts of Pennsylvania. Judge Bowes thereafter engaged in the general practice of law before joining the legal department of a publicly-traded corporation. A member of the Allegheny County and Pennsylvania Bar Associations, she was named one of Pennsylvania's Best 50 Women in Business by Governor Tom Ridge. Judge Bowes is the recipient of numerous awards, and recently was honored with the Judge Robert E. Dauer Award for Judicial Excellence and Leadership by the Amen Corner in Pittsburgh. In May of 2025, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws by Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania. Judge Bowes is the proud grandma of Molly Jane, Teddy, and Ella.