

## Lola Diamond - Fwd: Bio and Website changes from Judge Dillard

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**From:** Holly Sparrow  
**To:** Lola Diamond  
**Date:** 4/10/2013 3:40 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Bio and Website changes from Judge Dillard

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FYI, please make changes in Judge Dillard's bio.

>>> Terry Jones 4/10/2013 3:40 PM >>>

Sean, please read Judge Dillard's request below in regards to updating his bio on the Court's website. Also, if we haven't already updated the Court's brochure, please incorporate these changes in the brochure. If it has already been printed no need to worry about these changes.

Thanks!

Terry

>>> Stephen Louis A. Dillard 4/10/2013 3:35 PM >>>

Terry:

Please ask Sean to make the following changes to my bio and the Court's website.

The first sentence of my bio should be revised as follows:

Judge Stephen Louis A. Dillard was appointed **as the 73rd judge of** the Court of Appeals of Georgia on November 1, 2010 by Governor Sonny Perdue.

Also, in the roster of judges, Judge McMillian is listed as having joined the Court in 2012 when she actually joined the Court in 2013. This needs to be changed.

Thanks,

SLAD

Biographies for 2013

PJ Andrews	✓
PJ Barnes	
J Miller	✓
CJ Ellington	
PJ Phipps	✓
PJ Doyle	✓
J Dillard	✓
J McFadden	✓
J Boggs	✓
J Ray	✓
J Branch	✓
J McMillian	✓

## **Lola Diamond - Re: Fwd: Updating Short Biographies for Web Page and Court History Pamphlet**

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**From:** Holly Sparrow  
**To:** Lola Diamond  
**Date:** 2/20/2013 12:08 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd: Updating Short Biographies for Web Page and Court History Pamphlet  
**Attachments:** Re: Fwd: Updating Short Biographies for Web Page and Court History Pamphlet

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FYI

>>> Debbie Zimmerman 2/20/2013 11:16 AM >>>  
Holly,

Judge Phipps forwarded to me an email from you (to him) dated February 19 saying that you had not yet received a bio update from him. That is not correct; as the attached emails show, we responded to your first request immediately, back in January.

Thank you.

Debbie Zimmerman  
Administrative Assistant to Presiding Judge Herbert E. Phipps  
Court of Appeals of Georgia

**Lola Diamond - Re: Fwd: Updating Short Biographies for Web Page and Court History Pamphlet**

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**From:** Holly Sparrow  
**To:** Debbie Zimmerman  
**Date:** 1/10/2013 3:21 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd: Updating Short Biographies for Web Page and Court History Pamphlet

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Thank you for the information. We will save the file for the court history pamphlet.

>>> Debbie Zimmerman 1/10/2013 2:37 PM >>>  
Holly,

Judge Phipps updated his bio in December, and we had the tech staff update it on the court's website at that time. Judge Phipps has reviewed the bio that appears now on the court's website and feels it is correct and up-to-date. A copy of it is attached to this email for your use in updating the court's history pamphlet.

Thank you.

Debbie Zimmerman  
Administrative Assistant to Presiding Judge Herbert E. Phipps  
Court of Appeals of Georgia  
(404) 656-3457

**Presiding Judge Gary Blaylock Andrews** was elected to the Georgia Court of Appeals in November, 1990, and took office on January 1, 1991. He was re-elected in 1996, 2002 and 2008. Presiding Judge Andrews served as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals from 1997-1998.

Presiding Judge Andrews was born on October 30, 1946 to Jones Garnett Andrews, Sr. and Nancy Blaylock Andrews, members of pioneer Walker and Catoosa County families. Presiding Judge Andrews was reared in Chickamauga, Walker County, Georgia, where he attended public schools and graduated from Gordon Lee High School in 1964. Presiding Judge Andrews received his B.B.A. degree in Accounting from the University of Georgia in 1968, and went on to receive his Juris Doctor from the University of Georgia Law School in 1971. In 1981, he completed a course of study for general jurisdiction trial judges at the National Judicial College.

While attending the University of Georgia, Presiding Judge Andrews was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity and Beta Alpha Psi Honorary Accounting Fraternity.

Presiding Judge Andrews was admitted to the Georgia Bar in November 1971 and accepted a position as an Assistant Attorney General under Arthur K. Bolton, Attorney General of Georgia. From 1976 to 1980, Presiding Judge Andrews engaged in the private practice of law in Atlanta and Chickamauga while also serving as a special assistant Attorney General.

In 1980, Presiding Judge Andrews was elected Superior Court Judge of the Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit (Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade and Walker Counties) and was re-elected to that office in 1984. While a Superior Court Judge, he served on the State Sentence Review Panel and was a member of the Council of Superior Court Judges and the Seventh Judicial Administrative District Council. On May 30, 1985, Governor Joe Frank Harris appointed him Commissioner of the Georgia Public Service Commission. He was subsequently elected to that office in 1986, a position he held until December, 1990. He served as Chair of the Georgia Public Service Commission from 1987 to 1989 and was a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and the Executive Commission of the Southern Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

In 1981, Presiding Judge Andrews was named one of Georgia's five outstanding young men by the Georgia Jaycees. He was also a member of Leadership Georgia, Class of 1986. He is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, the Lookout Mountain Bar Association, the Gridiron Secret Society and the Chickamauga First Baptist Church. Judge Andrews has three children: Elizabeth Paige Andrews, Gary B. ("Blake") Andrews, Jr., and Blane A. Andrews. He and his wife, Doris, live in Chickamauga.

## Lola Diamond - Fwd: Re: Biography Updates

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**From:** Holly Sparrow  
**To:** Lola Diamond  
**Date:** 2/19/2013 12:57 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re: Biography Updates

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FYI

>>> Michael Boggs <boggs@gaappeals.us> 2/19/2013 12:30 PM >>>  
prefer bio remain the same. thanks  
Michael P. Boggs, Judge  
Court of Appeals of Georgia  
State Judicial Building  
47 Trinity Avenue S.W., Suite 403  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
(404) 656-3453

On Feb 19, 2013, at 11:58 AM, "Holly Sparrow" <SPARROWH@gaappeals.us> wrote:

> prefer your bio remain the same.

OK

## Bio of Judge William M. Ray, II

Judge William M. Ray, II (Billy) was born in Macon, Georgia in 1963 and raised in Peach and Crawford Counties. He is the son of a farmer.

Judge Ray attended the University of Georgia, where he obtained a Bachelor of Business degree from the Terry School of Business in 1985, *magna cum laude*, majoring in Risk Management and Insurance. He also obtained a Master of Business degree from UGA in 1986, with honors, majoring in Finance. Judge Ray thereafter attended the University of Georgia School of Law, where he obtained a Juris Doctor degree in 1990, graduating *cum laude*.

While in law school, Judge Ray was actively involved in the moot court program, participating on the ABA Team as a 2L and on the Hulsey-Kimbrell Team as a 3L, as well as serving as a managing member of the Moot Court Board. He was inducted into both the Order of the Barristers and the Order of the Coif, in recognition of his oral advocacy and academic achievements.

Upon graduating from law school in 1990, Judge Ray moved to Lawrenceville, Georgia to begin the practice of law with the firm then known as Andersen, Davidson & Tate. As a trial attorney, his practice was primarily family law and civil litigation, including real estate, construction and contract law. Judge Ray became a partner in 1995.

Having grown up in a family involved in government and politics, Judge Ray ran for the State Senate in 1996 for the 48th District, comprised of parts of Gwinnett, Forsyth, and Fulton Counties. He served in the Senate for six years, serving on the Judiciary, Special Judiciary, Rules, Appropriations, Natural Resources, and Transportation Committees. He also served on the Governor's Education Reform Commission from 1999-2000. Judge Ray's legislative achievements include the passage of Heidi's Law, which at the time represented a comprehensive overhaul and toughening of DUI laws in the state.

On January 14, 2002, Judge Ray took the oath of office as a Superior Court Judge for the Gwinnett Judicial Circuit, having been appointed by then Governor Roy Barnes to fill an unexpired term. He was re-elected in November of 2002, 2006, and 2010. In 2005, Judge Ray founded the Gwinnett Drug Treatment Court, among the first handful of treatment courts in Georgia, and he served as its Presiding Judge for seven years. He also served for many years as the Chair of the Legislation Committee of the Council of Superior Court Judges, and most recently, as the Secretary-Treasurer of this statewide governing council of the 200 plus Superior Court Judges. He has also served as a Trustee on Board of the Judicial Retirement System.

On July 30, 2012, Governor Nathan Deal administered the oath of office to Judge Ray to serve as the 76th Judge of the Court of Appeals of Georgia.

Judge Ray has been married since 1989 to Dr. Kelle Chandler Ray, who is a clinical psychologist who practices in Lawrenceville, Georgia. They have three sons, Chandler (16), Davis (14), and Avery (12), and they reside in Grayson, Georgia in Gwinnett County.

OK

Bio revision McFadden.

Judge McFadden has served as a volunteer attorney for the Innocence Project and the Election Protection Project. He is a member of the Atlanta Bar Association, DeKalb Bar Association, Fayette County Bar Association, Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Georgia Trial Lawyers Association, Lawyers Club of Atlanta, the Old Warhorse Lawyers Club, the Federalist Society, American Constitution Society, Saint Thomas More Society, and Oglethorpe University's Stormy Petrel Bar Association. He has served for more than six years on the State Bar of Georgia's Committee on the Judiciary. He is a member of the appellate practice committees of the Litigation and Section and the Tort and Insurance Practice Sections of the American Bar Association. He presently serves on the Appellate Judges Education Institute's Summit Planning Committee and represents the Court of Appeals on the Georgia Commission on Interpreters and on the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia.

OK

**Presiding Judge Sara L. Doyle** was elected to the Georgia Court of Appeals in December, 2008 and took office on January 1, 2009. Born in Dallas, Texas, Judge Doyle lived in several states before entering the University of Florida where she graduated in 1990 with a Bachelors degree in Business Administration. She graduated *cum laude* from Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law in 1994. Judge Doyle was admitted to the Georgia Bar in June, 1994 and began her legal career as a civil litigator with Wilson, Strickland & Benson, P.C. Just prior to taking office, she was an equity partner with the national law firm of Holland & Knight, LLP where she practiced law with a focus on education issues since August, 2000.

As a practicing attorney, Judge Doyle received an A.V. peer-reviewed rating from Martindale Hubbell. She was selected as a Georgia Super Lawyer from 2004 to 2008, and in 2006 and 2008, was named one of the top 50 female attorneys in Georgia. She has also been recognized as one of Georgia's legal elite by Georgia Trend Magazine. Judge Doyle is a member of the American Bar Association, the Atlanta Bar Association, the National Association of Women Judges, the Georgia Association of Women Lawyers (GAWL), the Gate City Bar Association and the Georgia Association of Black Woman Attorneys (GABWA).

Judge Doyle is involved in many professional, civic and religious organizations. She is a member of the Lawyers Club of Atlanta, where she currently holds the position of President and has been a member of the club's executive committee since 2003. She has been a member and director of the Atlanta Bar Association Bard show, is co-editor of the Atlanta Bar Editorial Board, and a member at-large of the Atlanta Bar's Judicial Section. Judge Doyle is a member of the State Bar's Law Related Education Committee, and the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution, a member of GAWL's Advisory Board, a Master and Executive Board member in the Lamar Inn of Court and is serving a three-year term on Emory University's Board of Visitors. She has sat as a fee dispute arbitrator for the State Bar of Georgia and is currently the co-chair for the State Bar of Georgia's Commission on the Unlicensed Practice of Law. In 2012, Judge Doyle joined Mercer Law School's Board of Visitors and in January, 2013, was inducted as a member at-large of the Gate City Bar Association's Judicial Section.

Judge Doyle has participated in Leadership Midtown, the Atlanta Regional Commission Leadership Institute, the American Bar Association Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section Leadership Academy and the 2011 University of Florida Women's Inaugural Leadership Event. Judge Doyle was a Barrister in the Bleckley Inn of Court and a faculty member for the Emory University Trial Advocacy Program. Judge Doyle has participated as a Hands On Atlanta Day team leader, an American Cancer Society Neighborhood fundraiser, as co-chair for her law firm's United Way Committee and a volunteer for the Georgia Volunteer Lawyer for the Arts.

Judge Doyle is married to attorney, Jay Doyle, and they have two children.



## Court of Appeals

FROM: Judge Doyle

To:

Holly Sparrow / I.T. ?

updated Bio

- A Century of Serving Justice
      - Chief Judges
      - Roster of Judges
      - Clerks
      - Seal
      - Courtroom
  - Careers
    - Employment Opportunities

<--Back to all Judges



## Sara L. Doyle

**Presiding Judge Sara L. Doyle** was elected to the Georgia Court of Appeals in December, 2008 and took office on January 1, 2009. Born in Dallas, Texas, Judge Doyle lived in several states before entering the University of Florida where she graduated in 1990 with a Bachelors degree in Business Administration. She graduated *cum laude* from Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law in 1994. Judge Doyle was admitted to the Georgia Bar in June, 1994 and began her legal career as a civil litigator with Wilson, Strickland & Benson, P.C. Just prior to taking office, she was an equity partner with the national law firm of Holland & Knight, LLP where she practiced law with a focus on education issues since August, 2000.



As a practicing attorney, Judge Doyle received an A.V. peer-reviewed rating from Martindale Hubbell. She was selected as a Georgia Super Lawyer from 2004 to 2008, and in 2006 and 2008, was named one of the top 50 female attorneys in Georgia. She has also been recognized as one of Georgia's legal elite by Georgia Trend Magazine. Judge Doyle is a member of the American Bar Association, the Atlanta Bar Association, the National Association of Women Judges, the Georgia Association of Women Lawyers (GAWL), the Gate City Bar Association and the Georgia Association of Black Woman Attorneys (GABWA).

Judge Doyle is involved in many professional, civic and religious organizations. She is a member of the Lawyers Club of Atlanta, where she currently holds the position of ~~Second Vice President~~ <sup>President</sup> and has been a member of the club's executive committee since 2003. She has been a member and director of the Atlanta Bar Association Bard show, and is a ~~current member~~ <sup>co-editor</sup> of the Atlanta Bar Editorial Board. Judge Doyle is a member of the State Bar's Law Related Education Committee, and the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution, a member of GAWL's Advisory Board, a Master of the Lamar Inn of Court and is serving a three-year term on Emory University's Board of Visitors. She has sat as a fee dispute arbitrator for the State Bar of

And a member at-large of the Atlanta Bar's Judicial Section.  
 President  
 and executive Board Member

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Judge Doyle is married to attorney, Jay Doyle, and they have two children.

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 Novell

*also*

*Board of Visitors and  
in January, ~~2012~~ 2013  
was inducted as  
a member at-large  
of the Gate City Bar  
Association's Judicial  
Section.*

## Judge McMillian Biography

**Judge Carla Wong McMillian** was appointed to the Georgia Court of Appeals by Governor Nathan Deal, taking office on January 24, 2013. Born and raised in Augusta, Georgia, she is the first Asian Pacific American state appellate judge ever to be appointed in the Southeast.

Prior to joining the Court of Appeals, Judge McMillian served as the State Court Judge for Fayette County, a position to which she was appointed by Governor Sonny Perdue in 2010. In 2012, the voters of Fayette County overwhelmingly elected her to a full term by a 2-1 margin over another sitting judge, making Judge McMillian the first minority woman elected countywide to any office in Fayette County history and the first Asian-American female judge to be elected in Georgia.

Before her appointment to the bench, Judge McMillian was a partner in the litigation group of the national law firm of Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP. Her practice centered on complex business litigation, including a heavy emphasis on appellate matters. In particular, she argued cases before the Georgia Supreme Court, the Georgia Court of Appeals, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Louisiana Court of Appeals. Before joining Sutherland, Judge McMillian had the privilege of beginning her legal career as a federal law clerk for the Honorable William C. O'Kelley of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Throughout her career, Judge McMillian has demonstrated a commitment to service. She currently serves or has served in leadership roles for the Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the Fayette County Historical Society, the Partnership Against Domestic Violence, the Real Life Center, and the Atlanta Chapter of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies. She has also been a member of the Rotary Club of Peachtree City.

Because Judge McMillian believes that lawyers have a special duty to model and promote the highest ideals of the legal profession, she has accepted invitations to speak at events such as the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism and the Annual Women's Law Panel at the UGA School of Law to mentor lawyers and law students on important professionalism issues. As a public servant, Judge McMillian works hard to educate Georgia's next generation by speaking at local school events, hosting student groups who visit the courthouse, and serving as a judge for high school and law school mock trial competitions.

OK

Numerous groups have recognized Judge McMillian's work as a lawyer and her service to the community. Her peers in the legal profession twice selected her as a *Georgia Super Lawyers* "Rising Star." In 2012, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association tapped her as one of the "Best Lawyers Under 40" in the United States. The National Diversity Council picked her as one of the "2010 Most Powerful and Influential Women of Georgia." The Westminster Schools of Augusta named her as its "2010 Distinguished Alumna" and invited her to speak at graduation. The *Fayette Woman* recognized Judge McMillian in its January 2013 issue for "Making a Difference on the Bench and Beyond."

Education has played an enormous role in Judge McMillian's life. She attended law school as a Woodruff Scholar at the University of Georgia School of Law, where she graduated third in her class with highest honors and served as President of the Christian Legal Society. She also graduated with high honors from Duke University, earning Bachelor of Arts degrees in both History and Economics. She obtained her high school diploma from the Westminster Schools of Augusta, graduating as the valedictorian of her class.

Judge McMillian has been married since 1997 to her husband Lance, a professor at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. They have two children and live in Fayette County. They are long-time members of Dogwood Church, where Judge McMillian has served as a small group leader for adult, women's, and children's small groups.

JK

**Judge Stephen Louis A. Dillard** was appointed to the Court of Appeals of Georgia on November 1, 2010 by Governor Sonny Perdue. On July 31, 2012, Judge Dillard was elected by his fellow Georgians to serve a full six-year term on the Court (2013-2018). Prior to his appointment, Judge Dillard was in private practice with James, Bates, Pope & Spivey in Macon, serving as Chairman of the firm's appellate practice group.

Judge Dillard was born in Nashville, Tennessee on November 13, 1969. He attended and graduated from Hillwood High School in Nashville, Tennessee; Samford University (B.A. 1992); and the Mississippi College School of Law (J.D., cum laude, 1996). In college, Judge Dillard was a member of Sigma Chi and Omicron Delta Kappa. During law school, Judge Dillard was a member of the Moot Court Board and received the Judge Robert G. Gillespie Outstanding Achievement in Appellate Advocacy Award, as well as the American Jurisprudence Award in Appellate Advocacy. He also reactivated the Mississippi College Chapter of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies, serving as its president for three years.

After graduating from law school, Judge Dillard joined the Macon law firm of Stone & Baxter, where he practiced from 1996 until 2001. In September 2001, he left private practice for a two-year period to serve as a law clerk at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit for Judge Daniel A. Manion (who was appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1986). In September 2003, Judge Dillard joined James Bates as of counsel, specializing in appellate practice and complex litigation. While in practice, he received an AV® Preeminent™ Peer-Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell and was named by Super Lawyers as one of Georgia's "rising stars."

Additionally, Judge Dillard was appointed by Governor Sonny Perdue to the Judicial Nominating Commission and the Public Defender Selection Panel for the Macon Judicial Circuit. He is a member of the Speakers Bureau of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies, a member of the Board of Advisors of the Atlanta Lawyers Chapter, and previously served as President of the Macon Lawyers Chapter. Judge Dillard has published scholarly essays in the *Encyclopedia of Civil Liberties*, the *Encyclopedia of Great American Judges*, and the *Encyclopedia of Great American Lawyers*. He was also a participating lawyer with the Criminal Justice Act Appellate Panel for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, handling *pro bono publico* appeals for indigent individuals. Judge Dillard also served as a legal-policy advisor to Governor Mike Huckabee during the 2008 presidential campaign. Judge Dillard is a member of the State Bar of Georgia's Appellate Practice Section, the Macon Bar Association, the Atlanta Bar Association, the Lawyers Club of Atlanta, the Saint Thomas More Society, the Lamar American Inn of Court, and the William Augustus Bootle American Inn of Court.

Since joining the Court of Appeals, Judge Dillard has spoken to numerous organizations and participated in countless seminars on a wide variety of legal topics. In 2012, Judge Dillard was appointed by Chief Judge John J. Ellington to represent the Court of Appeals on the Code of Judicial Conduct Review Committee, and began serving as the Special Consultant to the Georgia High School Mock Trial Committee.

Judge Dillard is married to the former Krista McDaniel, and they have three children. He is an active parishioner of Saint Joseph Catholic Church and the former President of the School Board for Saint Joseph's Catholic School.

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