

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE PIPER D. GRIFFIN

A lifelong resident of New Orleans, Justice Griffin graduated from Xavier University Preparatory School (currently St. Katharine Drexel Preparatory School), the University of Notre Dame and LSU's Paul M. Hebert Law Center in 1987.

As a young lawyer Justice Griffin began her legal career practicing in the New Orleans area, focusing on casualty litigation. In 2001, after 14 years as a practicing attorney, Justice Griffin was elected to the Orleans Parish Civil District Court and served as its Chief Judge from 2008 to 2010.

In 2020 Justice Griffin was elected to serve as an Associate Justice for District 7 representing portions of both Orleans and Jefferson Parishes, following in the footsteps of Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson and Justice Revis Ortique.

Prior to joining the Court, Justice Griffin was active with both the bench and bar, volunteering with many organizations including Juvenile Court's Teen Court program, the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society (serving as its Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary), the New Orleans Bar Association (being elected as the first African American Chair of the Young Lawyer's Section and as a board member) as well as the Louisiana Law & Civil Education Association.

Justice Griffin notes as one of her crowning career achievements, her appointment as the Constitutional Law Bar Examiner for the Louisiana Bar Exam by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

As a member of the bench, Justice Griffin's volunteerism has not stopped. She is the Secretary of the Louisiana Judicial Council Foundation/National Bar Association and the immediate Past President of the Louisiana Judicial Council/National Bar Association. She has previously served as second vice president of the Louisiana Association of District Court Judges, president of the 4th and 5th Circuit Judges Association. She continues to be a frequent speaker for the Louisiana State Bar Association, the New Orleans Bar Association, the Louisiana Judicial College and has been featured on many other national and local programs.

Several years ago, Justice Griffin was appointed and continues to serve as a member of the Louisiana State Law Institute Council.

Justice Griffin lives a life dedicated to service to her community and her profession. As such, she has been and continues to be active in many professional and civic associations and has received numerous awards and certificates in recognition of her accomplishments and her commitment to the community. These include receipt of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) 2020 Thomas Jefferson Justice By the People Award, 2019 Sarah J. Harper Humanitarian award which is given during the annual Thurgood Marshall luncheon by the National Bar Association Judicial Council, 2019 First District Missionary Society Women's Department Woman of the Year Award, the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award and its 2003 Ernest N. Morial Judicial Pacesetter Award; being recognized as a YWCA Role Model; 2004 Sigma Rho Sorority, Inc. Award for Exemplary Community Service Award, the 2003 Alliance for Good Government Civic Award as well as the 2002-2003 Data News Weekly Scoop Jones Trailblazer Award.

Justice Griffin is an active member of her church, Second Baptist 6th District. She is a former foster mother and serves as a mentor and surrogate mother to many.



PROGRAM

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| Presiding | Dr. Roshunda Belton-Cardoza, Associate Vice President <i>Academic Affairs</i> |
| The Posting of the Colors | Grambling State University Army ROTC Tiger Battalion <i>Under the leadership of LTC Mason Moore, Professor of Military Science</i> |
| The National Anthem | Grambling State University Tiger Marching Band <i>Under the direction of Dr. Nikole Roebuck</i> <i>Music Department Chair/Assistant Professor of Music & Director of Bands</i> |
| Greetings | President Richard J. Gallot, Jr. Ms. Alexa Johnson, President <i>Student Government Association (SGA) & Member of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College</i> <i>(Major ~ Biology) Oklahoma City, Oklahoma</i> |
| Purpose | Ms. Madison Johnson <i>Miss Grambling State University & Member of the Earl Lester Cole Honors College</i> <i>(Major ~ Mass Communication) Garland, Texas</i> |
| Introduction of the Speaker | Dr. Connie Walton, Provost <i>& Vice President for Academic Affairs</i> |
| Selection | Grambling State University Choir <i>Under the direction of Dr. Cordara Harper</i> <i>Assistant Professor of Music Education & Choir Director</i> |
| Speaker | Louisiana Supreme Court Associate Justice Piper D. Griffin |
| Selection | Grambling State University Choir <i>Under the direction of Dr. Cordara Harper</i> <i>Assistant Professor of Music Education & Choir Director</i> |
| Announcements & Closing Comments | Presiding Officer |
| The Alma Mater | Led by the University Choir & Marching Band |
| Usher Services Kinesiology Sports and Leisure Studies (KSLS) Majors Club Kendall Edison, President Dr. Obadiah Simmons and Ms. Barbara Lewis, Advisors | |

Grambling State University Alma Mater

Lyrics by: Ralph Waldo Emerson "Prez" Jones

Ole Grambling, dear Grambling,
We love thee dear, Ole Grambling
We're loyal to thee, our dear ole School,
We'll fight for thee forevermore.
And when life's game is fought and won,
The hills will ring with victory's song.
Ole Grambling, dear Grambling,
We love thee dear, Ole Grambling. Ole Grambling, dear Grambling,
We love thee dear, Ole Grambling
Long may thee stand 'till all the land
Has felt the worth of thy great hand.
And when thy sons to battle go,
The hills will ring from shore to shore.
Ole Grambling, dear Grambling,
We love thee dear, Ole Grambling.

Program Committee

Dr. Rory L. Bedford, Chair
Dr. Ellen D. Smiley, Co-Chair
Ms. Nia Johnson
Ms. Jackie Newsome
Ms. Miloni Perera
Ms. Kaitlin Wiley (Biology Major – Ruston, LA.)
Mr. Adarian Williams

This observance is sponsored by:
The Office of the President

The Office of Continuing Education & Service-Learning
Dr. Rory L. Bedford, Director

The Earl Lester Cole Honors College
Dr. Ellen D. Smiley, Dean

Title III Programs & Strategic Planning
Mrs. Tasha Heard, Executive Director

Constitution Day Observance at Grambling State University



THEME:
"LIFE. LIBERTY. FREEDOM. PROSPERITY"

Richard J. Gallot, Jr., JD, President
Tuesday, September 19, 2023
11:00 a.m.

T. H. Harris Auditorium
Grambling State University
Grambling, Louisiana