

Anita Laster Mays

Anita Laster Mays attended John Adams High School and graduated from James Ford Rhodes High in 1982. Her education continued at Ohio State University, where she majored in Accounting and Management Information Systems. After graduating in 1986, she began working as a management trainee at State Savings Bank. Two years later, she moved back to Cleveland to attend Cleveland Marshall College of Law, while working full-time as a Financial Systems Analyst at MetroHealth Medical Center and part-time as a mediator for the City of Cleveland. In 1992, her goal of becoming a lawyer was achieved.



Following two years of private practice, she became an Assistant Cleveland Prosecutor and soon joined the Municipal Court's Domestic Violence Coordinating Council and the DUI Committee to enhance her legal abilities.

In 1996, she joined the Clerk of Courts Office as Director of Operations for the Criminal Division, a position that placed her in charge of day-to-day operations over eight departments with a total of 105 employees. In 1999, Mays made an unsuccessful run for a seat on the municipal court. She ran again two years later and although once again unsuccessful, she doubled her vote count. She won on her third try in 2003 by over 2,000 votes and was unopposed for re-election. Mays served as judge of the Greater Cleveland Drug Court for 6 years. She was elected to the 8th District Court of Appeals in 2014.

Anita Laster Mays served Cleveland Municipal Court from January 1, 2004 to January 31, 2015.