



Virginia Long

Counsel

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Fox Rothschild LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Retired New Jersey Supreme Court Justice Virginia Long joined Fox Rothschild in March 2012 after to 15 years on the Appellate Division and 12 years as a pivotal player on the Supreme Court.

At Fox Rothschild, Long devotes her efforts to assisting clients with ethics and appellate matters, corporate governance and governmental integrity investigations and to serving as a mediator and arbitrator providing dispute resolution alternatives. She also spearheads the firm's pro bono efforts in New Jersey and was recently appointed to the Supreme Court special committee on attorney ethics to study the new ABA rules on professional conduct.

A respected member of the New Jersey bar for more than 40 years, Long was appointed to the state's high court in 1999 by Governor Christine Todd Whitman. In that capacity, she authored many opinions, but is perhaps best known for her stance related to the death penalty, which she believed was impossible to apply rationally and consistently.

Long's 2000 judicial opinions impacted the lives of people statewide and addressed such topics as establishing standards for a determination of who constitutes a "psychological parent;" determining that the refusal to renew the employment contract of an employee over the age of 70 violated the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination; first recognizing PTSD as a basis for workers compensation and disability retirement benefits. She also penned a number of ground breaking land use opinions and numerous insurance opinions including several regarding risk allocation in long tail environmental exposure cases.

Before Fox Rothschild

Long began her career as a Deputy Attorney General and later served as Director of the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs and as Commissioner of the former New Jersey Department of Banking. She also practiced law at the firm of Pitney, Hardin and Kipp.

In 1978, Gov. Brendan T. Byrne appointed her to the New Jersey Superior Court, where she presided over civil, criminal and family law cases. From 1983 to 1984, she was the General Equity judge for Mercer, Somerset and Hunterdon counties. In 1984, then-Chief Justice Robert N. Wilentz elevated her to the Appellate Division, where became a presiding judge in 1995.

Long was appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court in 1999 and was confirmed by the Senate for a second term and granted tenure in 2006. She chaired and served as a member of numerous Supreme Court committees, including Extra-judicial Activities and Judicial Performance. She retired on March 1, 2012, when she reached the age of mandatory retirement.

Honors and Awards

Justice Long has been recognized with several prestigious awards including:

- Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award, Rutgers School of Law, 2013
- Honorary Doctor of Laws, Rutgers University, 2013
- New Jersey State Bar Association James J. McLaughlin Award for Civility, Legal Competence and Professionalism, 2013
- New Jersey State Bar Association Marie L. Garibaldi Award for Distinguished Service and Excellence, 2012
- New Jersey Psychiatric Association Citizen of the Year Award, 2012 for establishing the DSM-IV standard in Posttraumatic Stress Disorder cases
- New Jersey State Bar Association Serpentelli Award for Significant Contributions to the Development of Family Law, 2012
- Rutgers University Hall of Distinguished Alumni, 2001
- Douglass College New Jersey Women of Achievement Award, 2001
- Seton Hall Law School Woman of Substance Award, 2000
- Rutgers School of Law Fannie Bear Besser Award for Public Service, 1999

Practice Areas

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate Practice
- Attorneys and Law Firms
- Directors' & Officers' Liability & Corporate Governance
- Family Law
- Litigation

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey

Education

- J.D., Rutgers Law School, 1966
- B.A., Dunbarton College of Holy Cross, 1963

Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey
- New Jersey Supreme Court

Memberships

- Supreme Court Special Committee on attorney ethics to review ABA model rules on professional conduct, 2013 to present
- Advisory Committee on Judicial Conduct (Vice Chair), 2013 to present
- New Jersey Law Revision Commission, 2012 to present
- New Jersey Law Journal, Editorial Board, 2012 to present
- American Bar Foundation, Fellow Since 1984
- New Jersey State Bar Association, Since 1966

Board of Directors

- Legal Services of New Jersey, Board of Trustees, 2012 to present
- Centurion Ministries, 2012 to present
- Stuart Country Day School of the Sacred Heart, 1989-1996

News

"Retired NJ Supreme Court Justice Virginia Long Named Recipient of the Mary Philbrook Public Interest Award by Rutgers School of Law," (September 19, 2013)

"Retired NJ Supreme Court Justice Virginia Long To Deliver Keynote Speech at Princeton Chambers 2013 Women's Conference," (September 18, 2013)

Featured: "Thousands of Attorneys and Judges Gather in Atlantic City – New Jersey State Bar Association Holds its Largest Ever Annual Meeting," Attorney at Law Magazine (July 2013)

Featured: "Pro Bono Work Proposed for N.J. Bar Admission," Legal Intelligencer (May 21, 2013)

"Retired NJ Supreme Court Justice Virginia Long To Deliver Keynote Speech at Rutgers University Commencement ," (April 26, 2013)

Featured: "Ex-justice to Give RU Commencement Speech," The Star-Ledger (April 24, 2013)

Featured : "“Enable New Jersey” Helps Disabled With a Group of Volunteers 900 Strong," Princeton Town Topics (March 20, 2013)

"Virginia Long Named Recipient of James J. McLaughlin Award ," (February 6, 2013)

"Fox Rothschild Attorneys Hold Legal Clinic for Veterans," (October 23, 2012)

Featured : "Business Highlights ," Hillsborough Beacon (October 11, 2012)

"Virginia Long Named Recipient of Marie L. Garibaldi Award for Distinguished Service and Excellence," (October 3, 2012)

Featured: "On the Record with Michael Aron," NJTV (September 28, 2012)

Featured: "State Bar Association Celebrates Women in the Profession," New Jersey Law Journal (September 24, 2012)

Featured: "Editorial: Justice Virginia Long Brings Added Expertise To Centurion Ministries," The Times of Trenton (July 17, 2012)

Featured: "After Retirement, Judge Joins Group That Aids the Wrongfully Convicted," The Times of Trenton (July 13, 2012)

Featuerd: "Statehouse The Place To Tackle AG Fee Deals, Experts Say," Law 360 (June 15, 2012)

Featured: "Close Up," NJBIZ (April 23, 2012)

Featured: "Former Supreme Court Justice Disagrees With Age Limit," NJ Today (March 22, 2012)

Featured: "Movers," The National Law Journal (March 19, 2012)

Featured: "People in the News," The Legal Intelligencer (March 9, 2012)

Featured: "The Churn: Lateral Moves and Promotions in The Am Law 200," The Am Law Daily (March 6, 2012)

"N.J. Supreme Court Justice Virginia Long Required to Retire," The Newark Star Ledger (March 5, 2012)

"Justice Retires, Starts New Job," Asbury Park Sunday Press (March 4, 2012)

"Former NJ Supreme Court Justice Virginia Long Joins Fox Rothschild," (March 1, 2012)

Featured: "Justice Long Retiring from NJ Court, Joining Fox Rothschild," New Jersey Law Journal (March 1, 2012)

Speaking Engagements/Events

28th Annual Mary Philbrook Awards Ceremony

Presented by: Rutgers School of Law, Camden
Camden, NJ
October 3, 2013

2013 Commencement Speaker

(Commencement Speaker)

Presented by: Rutgers University
Piscataway, NJ
May 19, 2013

History of Women in the Courts

(Keynote Speaker)

Presented by: 2012 Women's Bench Bar Conference
New Brunswick, NJ
September 13, 2012