



For Immediate Release

Harris County State District Judge Elaine Palmer becomes first African American woman elected as Civil Division Administrative Judge by Judiciary

Jan. 8, 2024 – On Jan. 1, 2024, Judge Elaine Palmer of the 215th Harris County Civil State District Court, commenced her first term as the new Civil Division Administrative Judge for the Harris County State District Courts. She is the first African American woman to hold this position.

“I am honored to have been elected as the new Civil Administrative Judge by my peers,” said Judge Palmer, regarding the unanimous decision by the Harris County State District Judiciary. “I am committed to serving my division and our Judiciary as a whole, with integrity and patience.”

A native Houstonian, born and raised in the Third Ward, Judge Palmer has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to education, justice, and service. Prior to her first election to the Harris County Civil State District Court bench in 2012, she was a private practice attorney who appeared before the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas and state courts of Texas. Additionally, Judge Palmer was an Adjunct Professor with Westwood College’s Paralegal Program.

Judge Palmer succeeds Judge Beau Miller of the 190th Civil State District Court who held the position for two years.

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