



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Justice-Elect Walker to receive award from Leadership West Virginia

For immediate release

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Justice-Elect Elizabeth “Beth” D. Walker will receive the 2016 Leadership West Virginia Distinguished Alumnus Award at an event beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, at the Culture Center in Charleston.

The ceremony will be part of Leadership West Virginia’s 25th Anniversary celebration. Justice-Elect Walker is a member of the 1999 Leadership West Virginia class.

She was elected to the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia on May 10, 2016, becoming the first Justice elected in a nonpartisan race. She will take office on January 1, 2017.

Justice-Elect Walker was raised in Huron, Ohio. She is a 1987 *summa cum laude* graduate of Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan. She earned her law degree in 1990 from The Ohio State University, where she was Articles Editor for *The Ohio State Law Journal*.

She joined the law firm of Bowles Rice McDavid Graff & Love (now Bowles Rice) in Charleston. During her 22 years at Bowles Rice, she concentrated her statewide practice on labor and employment law and mediation. Justice-Elect Walker served on the firm’s Executive Committee and in several other leadership roles.

After moving to Morgantown in 2011, Justice-Elect Walker became Associate General Counsel for the West Virginia United Health System.

In 2012, Justice-Elect Walker was elected a Fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. She received the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award from Hillsdale College.

Justice-Elect Walker is former chairwoman and current member of the board of directors of Girl Scouts of Black Diamond Council. She has been an active community volunteer and served as chair of the boards of Leadership West Virginia and Kanawha Pastoral Counseling Center.

She is married to Mike Walker, a 2001 Leadership West Virginia graduate and former member of its board of directors, and stepmother to Jennifer. They live in Morgantown.