



Justice Peggy A. Quince

Justice Peggy A. Quince was born in Norfolk, Virginia, in 1948. She is married to Fred L. Buckine, attorney at law, and they have two daughters, Peggy LaVerne, a graduate of Florida A & M University, and Laura LaVerne, a graduate of the University of Central Florida. Justice Quince graduated in 1970 from Howard University with a B.S. Degree in Zoology; she received her J.D. Degree from the Catholic University of America in 1975. While a law student she was active in Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity and the Black American Law Students Association; she received an award for her work with Catholic's Neighborhood Legal Services Clinic. In 1999, she received an honorary doctor of laws degree from the Stetson University College of Law. In 2004, she received an honorary doctor of laws degree from St. Thomas University School of Law.



Justice Quince began her legal career in Washington, D.C. as a hearing officer with the Rental Accommodations Office administering that city's new rent control law. In 1977 she entered private practice in Norfolk, Virginia, with special emphasis in real estate and domestic relations.

She moved to Florida in 1978 and opened a law office in Bradenton, Florida, where she practiced general civil law until 1980. In February, 1980, Justice Quince began her tenure with the Attorney General's Office, Criminal Division. As an assistant attorney general she handled numerous appeals in the Second District Court of Appeal, the Florida Supreme Court, including death penalty cases, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. Her thirteen and a half year tenure at that office included five years as the Tampa Bureau Chief. Additionally, three years were spent handling death penalty cases exclusively, on direct appeal and in postconviction proceedings.

Justice Quince is a member of the Florida Bar, Virginia State Bar, the National Bar Association, the Tallahassee Women Lawyers, and the William H. Stafford Inn of Court. She is an active member of the Government Lawyers Section, the Criminal Law Section, and the Equal Opportunity Section of the Florida Bar. She is a former member of the George Edgecomb Bar Association, the Hillsborough County Bar Association, Hillsborough Association of Women Lawyers, and the Tampa Bay Inn of Court. Justice Quince's former Florida Bar activities include membership on the Gender Equality Committee, the Criminal Law Certification Committee, and the Executive Councils of the Government Lawyers and Criminal Law Section.

Presently, Justice Quince is on the executive counsel of the Appellate Section of the Florida Bar and is the Supreme Court liaison to the Workers' Compensation Committee, the Judicial Ethics Advisory Committee, and the Supreme Court's Family Court Steering Committee. She has lectured at a number of Continuing Legal Education programs on issues involving search and seizure, probation and parole, use of peremptory challenges, postconviction relief, professionalism and ethics, and the independence of the judiciary.

In 1993 Justice Quince became the first African-American female to be appointed to one of the district courts of appeal with her appointment by Governor Lawton Chiles to the Second District Court of Appeal to a term effective January 4, 1994. She was retained in office by the electorate in November 1996. On December 8, 1998, Justice Quince was appointed by the late Governor Lawton Chiles and Governor-elect Jeb Bush to the Florida Supreme Court.

Justice Quince is a member of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. Her civic and community activities include membership in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Jack and Jill of America, Inc., the Urban League, the NAACP, and The Links, Inc.

Justice Quince has received the following honors and awards: 2008, Lifetime Achievement Award by The Florida Bar's Government Lawyer Section; Florida Commission on the Status of Women, 2007 Florida Women's Hall of Fame award; American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession 2006 Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award; 2006 Rickards High School Outstanding School Volunteer Award; 2005 Key to the City of Winter Haven; 2005 Richard W. Ervin Equal Justice Award; 2004 Key to the City of Panama City, Florida; 2004 Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, Black Law Student Association Alumni Achievement Award; 2004 Lee County Association for Women Lawyers and the Lee County Bar Association Award for dedication to the promotion of equality in law and outstanding service as a distinguished member of the Florida judiciary; 2002 Florida Bar Equal Opportunities in the Profession Award; 2002 Florida Girls State Award; 2003 Helping Hand Award; 2003 Southern Women in Public Service Pacesetter Award; 2003 Florida Girls State Award; 2003 Pioneering the Future in our Community Award; 2003 Outstanding Jurist and Howard University Alumna Award; 2001 William H. Hastie Award from the National Bar Association Judicial Council; National Bar Association Presidential Achievement Award; Girl Scouts, Woman of Distinction Award, 2001; National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division Jurist Award for Outstanding Leadership Achievements and Dedicated Service to the Community At Large; Florida Chapter of the National Bar Association for Service on the Bench; Virgil Hawkins Bar Association Award for Community Service and Advancement of Equal Justice Under Law; the Virgil Hawkins Bar Association Certificate for Achievement in Jurisprudence; the Fort Lauderdale High School Award for participating in the School Law Magnet Program; the Broward County School Board Appreciation Award for Inspiration and Devotion to Our Youth; Award of Distinguished Service and Continuing Commitment to the People of Florida from the Fort Lauderdale B'nai B'rith; Proclamation from the Broward Board of County Commissioners stating that February 28, 1999, as "The Honorable Peggy A. Quince Appreciation Day;" Hillsborough County Sheriff's Black Advisory Council Appreciation Award; Lakeland NAACP Award for Contribution to Civil Rights; the African-American Production Company Personal Achievement Award; Paul C. Perkins Bar Association Appreciation Award; Florida State University College of Law Appreciation Certificate for Contributions made to Summer Law Program For Undergraduate Students; Certificate from the Office of the Attorney General, Florida Crime Prevention Training Institute for Exemplary Contributions to Crime Prevention in the State of Florida.

Office Information

Justice Quince's office may be reached in Tallahassee by phone at (850) 922-5624. Her judicial assistant is Glenda Larry and staff attorneys are Susan O'Halloran, Zainabu Rumala, and Jonathan Tannen. The mailing address is 500 South Duval Street, Tallahassee FL 32399-1925.

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<http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/justices/quince.shtml>