

Biography of Honorable Marianne B. Bowler



Born in Boston, Massachusetts, Judge Bowler received her Bachelor's degree from Regis College in pre-med and her J.D. degree cum laude from Suffolk Law School. Prior to attending law school, Judge Bowler was a research assistant in biochemistry at Harvard Medical School and a medical and scientific journalist. Her articles appeared in numerous newspapers and magazines.

Following a distinguished career in the office of the United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts and the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., Marianne B. Bowler was appointed to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts as a Magistrate Judge, a position which she has held since 1990. Since 2002, her additional judicial duties include serving as a mediator as part of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program of the United States District Court. Judge Bowler has conducted over 500 mediations in the Districts of Massachusetts, Puerto Rico and Rhode Island involving a wide range of subject areas including complex business litigation, all types of intellectual property disputes, discrimination and civil rights, admiralty, personal injury, environmental matters and products liability cases resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars in settlements with an average annual settlement rate in excess of 80 percent. Judge Bowler served as Chief Magistrate Judge from 2002 to 2005, an Observer Member to the Judicial Council of the First Circuit, and recently concluded two terms as a member of the International Judicial Relations Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States.

Active in the intellectual property community, Judge Bowler is President of the Boston Intellectual Property Inn of Court and was a co-founding President of Boston College Inn of Court for Intellectual Property in 1997. She was also the first woman president of the Suffolk Law School Alumni Association and the first woman to chair the board of the New England Baptist Hospital. Judge Bowler is married to Dr. Marc Pfeffer, the Dzaou Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. She enjoys extensive international traveling, is conversant in French, German and Italian, and is an accomplished artist specializing in faux finishes and trompe l'oeil painting.