

Richard A. Robinson

Partner

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Overview

Chief Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court Richard "Ric" Robinson (ret.) brings a unique perspective to our firm after serving in courts throughout Connecticut before being appointed to the Connecticut Appellate Court in 2007, and the Connecticut Supreme Court in 2013. His 24-year tenure on the bench has equipped him with a deep understanding of the legal landscape, including complex commercial disputes, and a keen insight into the minds of judges and jurors.

Ric offers our clients valuable guidance at both the trial and appellate levels. His firsthand knowledge of the judicial process, coupled with his extensive experience in a wide range of practice areas, enables him to provide strategic advice and counsel on a wide range of matters. As a former judge, he is well-versed in the nuances of the law and the intricacies of courtroom procedures. His ability to anticipate potential legal challenges and develop effective strategies significantly enhances our clients' chances of success in complex commercial disputes. Clients can rely on Ric's solid reputation as a tough, incisive, and thoughtful jurist.

When appointed by then-Governor Dannel P. Malloy in 2018, Ric became the first Black Chief Justice in the history of the Connecticut Supreme Court. He started his legal career serving as Staff Counsel for the Law Department of the City of Stamford, where he was born and raised. In 1988, he became Assistant Corporation Counsel in Stamford, and then, he was appointed to be a Judge of the Superior Court in 2000. Prior to joining the State Appellate Court, during his seven years as a Superior Court Judge, Ric served as Presiding Judge (Civil) for the New Britain Judicial District (2003-2006) and the Stamford Judicial District (2007); and Assistant Administrative Judge for the Ansonia/Milford Judicial District (2006-2007).

Ric has been praised for promoting the use of technology in the judicial system; ensuring that people had access to the courts, especially during the pandemic; and making progress on procedural fairness, cultural proficiency, and equity and inclusion during his years of service on the Connecticut bench.

Ric serves as Day Pitney's Chief Organization, Inclusion and Engagement (OIE) Officer and works closely with the firm's Executive Committee, the Director of OIE, and other stakeholders on furthering the firm's inclusion and engagement objectives and serve as thought leaders, ambassadors, and advocates on these issues.

Practices & Industries

Complex Commercial Litigation

Energy Litigation

Environmental, Social & Governance

Internal Investigations

Litigation

Firm Leadership:

- Chief Organization, Inclusion and Engagement Officer
- Chair, Day Pitney Diverse Attorneys

Education and Credentials

Education

West Virginia University School of Law, J.D., 1984

University of Connecticut, B.A., 1979

Admissions

State of Connecticut

State of West Virginia

U.S. District Court, Connecticut

U.S. District Court, Northern District of West Virginia

Affiliations

Connecticut State Bar Association

Connecticut Bar Foundation James W. Cooper Fellows, Life Fellow

New Haven Inn of Court, 2002-Present

Conference of Chief Justices, 2018-2024

National Center for State Courts, First Vice President, 2023-2024

Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction of the Judicial Conference of the United States, 2022-2024

Lawyers Assistance, Advisory Board, 2007-2018

National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness, 2020-2022

Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency, Chairperson, 2009-2022

Rules Committee, Chairperson, 2017-2018

Legal Internship Committee, 2013-2017

Bench-Bar, Foreclosure Committee, 2007-2014

Court Annexed, Mediator, 2005-2014

Civil Commission, 2005-2014

Judicial Education Committee, 2003-2014

Judicial Education Curriculum Committee, 2002-2014

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, Commissioner, 1997-2000; Chair 1999-2000

Assistant Corporation Counsel's Union (AFSCME), President, 1989-2000

Recognition and Community

No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the highest court of any state. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. See Awards Methodology.

Recognitions

Chosen for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* (Woodward/White, Inc.), Product Liability Litigation – Defendants, 2027

Honored with a “Most Influential Black Attorneys in the Northeast Awards” by the Northeast Black Law Students Association, 2025

NAACP 100 Most Influential Blacks in Connecticut, 2021

Connecticut Bar Foundation Distinguished Service Award, 2020

Quinnipiac School of Law Black Student Association Thurgood Marshall Award, 2019

ABOTA Judicial Excellence Award, 2019

Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities' Alvin W. Penn Award for Excellence in Leadership, 2018

Ebony Magazine Power 100 Award, 2018

Connecticut Bar Association's Henry J. Naruk Judiciary Award for Integrity, 2017

Connecticut Bar Association Young Lawyers Section Diversity Award, 2010

Community Involvement

Discovering Amistad, National Advisory Council, 2018-Present; National Advisory Board, 2015-2018

NAACP, Stamford Branch, President, 1988-1990

NAACP, Connecticut Conference, General Counsel, 1988-2000

Insights

Federal Contractors and Other Recipients of Federal Government Funds, Be Wary: DEI Initiatives May Lead to Liability Under the False Claims Act
Day Pitney Alert, May 30, 2025

Family Offices – Doing Well by Doing Good | Generations April / May 2025
April 23, 2025

"Pause, Reflect, Decide: Confronting Biases, Navigating Today's Challenges," Hispanic National Bar Association and Day Pitney
March 17, 2025

Garden State Bar Association's 5th Annual Labor and Employment Symposium
November 14, 2024

News

Day Pitney's Richard Robinson Wins "Most Influential Black Attorney for the Northeast" Award
Day Pitney Press Release, February 10, 2025

In Rare Feat, Law Firm Day Pitney Lands Two Former CT Supreme Court Chief Justices
October 28, 2024

Day Pitney Welcomes Former Chief Justice Richard A. Robinson to Litigation Department
September 16, 2024

In The Media

"2025 Professionalism Boot Camp," Connecticut Bar Association
December 12, 2025

"Decision Making Beyond Bias," Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, Court Wide Training Day
October 14, 2025

Chief Justice Robinson Keynotes UConn Law BLSA Graduation Event
April 30, 2025

"Raising the Bar," Connecticut Bar Association, Hartford County Bar Association and the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch
November 15, 2024

"2024 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Summit: The Collaborative Blueprint," Connecticut Bar Association
October 25, 2024

Retired Conn. Chief Justice Discusses Career and New Role
Law360 Pulse, September 26, 2024

Former Chief Justice Richard Robinson Joins Day Pitney
Diverse Lawyers Network, September 20, 2024

The Daily Docket Industry Moves
Thomson Reuters' The Daily Docket , September 23, 2024

Day Pitney Adds Former Chief Justice to Litigation Dept
CT News Junkie, September 17, 2024

Chief Justice Robinson Joins Day Pitney
Connecticut Law Tribune, September 17, 2024

Day Pitney Taps Ex-Connecticut Chief Justice Robinson as Partner
Bloomberg Law, September 16, 2024

Retired Conn. Chief Justice Starts Next Chapter at Day Pitney
Law360, September 16, 2024

'Humble Yet Assertive': Recently Retired Chief Justice Robinson Named Partner at CT Law Firm
Hartford Business Journal, September 16, 2024

Spring and Fall Lectures
2003-Present

Judicial Institutes
2003-Present