



Mary Kay Costello

Born: 1968, in Bristol, Pennsylvania

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
Nominated by Joseph R. Biden, Jr. on June 13, 2024, to a seat vacated by Cynthia M. Rufe.
Confirmed by the Senate on September 17, 2024, and received commission on September 19, 2024.

Other Federal Judicial Service:

U.S. Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, 2024

Education:

Temple University, B.A., 1998
Temple University James E. Beasley School of Law, J.D., 2001

Professional Career:

U.S. Air Force Staff Sergeant: 1986-1994
Private Practice, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: 2001-2008
Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Pennsylvania: 2008-2024

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Judicial Biography

Judge Costello was nominated by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. in June of 2024. She was confirmed by the United States Senate on September 17, 2024, and received her commission on September 19, 2024. She previously served as a United States Magistrate Judge from August to September of 2024.

From April of 2008 until August of 2024, Judge Costello served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. She served in various units within the criminal division during her tenure there. Most recently, she was assigned to the public corruption and civil rights unit. From September of 2010 until October of 2022, she was assigned to the health care fraud and government fraud unit. From April of 2008 until September of 2010, she was assigned to the consumer and commercial fraud unit. During her career at the U.S. Attorney's Office, she prosecuted criminal cases involving bribery, health care fraud, drug diversion schemes, schemes to defraud the government, tax fraud, cases involving violent crimes, and other matters. Judge Costello conducted multiple jury trials and argued three cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. She also supported the mission of the U.S. Attorney's Office by serving as the stimulus fraud coordinator and as a member of the hiring committee.

Prior to joining the United States Attorney's office, she was a litigation associate at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP in Philadelphia from 2004 to 2008. Her practice focused on class actions and other complex commercial litigation, including cases involving antitrust, health care, insurance matters, contracts, and employment law. She also worked as a litigation associate at Saul Ewing LLP in Philadelphia from 2001 until 2004 where she handled various commercial litigation matters involving contracts, insurance issues, employment law, and commercial real estate. While in private practice, she regularly participated in pro bono matters, including serving as a volunteer attorney for the Support Center for Child Advocates.

Judge Costello received her J.D., magna cum laude, from Temple University Beasley School of Law in 2001 and her B.A., summa cum laude, from Temple University in 1998.

From 1986 to 1994, Judge Costello served in the U.S. Air Force as a communications-computer systems operator. After attending basic training and technical school, she was assigned to duty stations in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Keflavik, Iceland, and Cape Cod, Massachusetts. She ultimately achieved the rank of staff sergeant (E-5). After eight years of service, she left the Air Force with an Honorable Discharge to pursue her college degree and attend law school.