



John M. Gallagher

Born: 1966, in New York, New York

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
Nominated by Donald J. Trump on October 15, 2019, to a seat vacated by Joel H. Slomsky.
Confirmed by the Senate on December 19, 2019, and received commission on December 31, 2019.

Education:

Long Island University, B.S., 1989
New York Law School, J.D., 1994

Professional Career:

Police Officer, New York City: 1989-1994
Assistant District Attorney, Bronx County, New York: 1994-1996
Assistant Special Prosecutor, New York City Police Department: 1996-1997
Assistant District Attorney, Monroe County, Pennsylvania: 1997-1998
Special Counsel to Police Commissioner, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: 1998-2000
White House Fellow, Counsel to Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice: 2000-2001
Assistant U.S. Attorney and Civil Rights Coordinator, District of New Mexico: 2001-2003
Assistant Chief of Police, Miami, Florida: 2003-2004
Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Pennsylvania: 2004-2019; Chief, Allentown Branch Office: 2014-2019

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Judicial Biography

Judge Gallagher was born in Queens, New York City. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Long Island University in 1989 and his Juris Doctor from New York Law School in 1994. He attended law school while serving as a New York City Police Officer assigned to the 28th

Precinct in Central Harlem. Judge Gallagher then worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Bronx County, New York, from 1994 to 1996, before returning to the NYPD as an Assistant Special Prosecutor for cases involving serious police corruption.

In 1997, Judge Gallagher moved to Pennsylvania, serving one year as an Assistant District Attorney in Monroe County before being hired as Special Counsel to Philadelphia Police Commissioner John Timoney, serving during a period of significant reform for the Philadelphia Police Department.

In 2000, Judge Gallagher received a Presidential appointment as a White House Fellow, serving as Counsel to United States Attorneys General Janet Reno and John Ashcroft. The following year, he was sworn as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of New Mexico, also serving as the district's Civil Rights Coordinator, investigating and prosecuting criminal civil rights violations. In 2003 to 2004, Judge Gallagher was appointed Assistant Chief of Police in the City of Miami, Florida, taking a leading role in the development and implementation of policies improving the effectiveness and professionalism of the police department.

In 2004, Judge Gallagher returned to Pennsylvania, and he served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania through 2019. He served as the Chief of the Allentown Branch from 2014 to 2019. In this office, he prosecuted some of the region's most notorious criminals including drug organizations, violent gangs, fraudsters, and corrupt public officials. His cases included the successful racketeering prosecution of a defendant who murdered 12 people, including two women and four children who were family to a federal informant who had agreed to testify against the defendant in a drug trafficking case. The trial resulted in the only death sentence ever imposed in the modern history of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

In 2015, Judge Gallagher co-authored "Black Ice: The Val James Story," the autobiography of Valmore James, the first American-born black player in the National Hockey League.

Judge Gallagher was nominated to his seat by President Donald J. Trump in 2019, and he was confirmed by the United States Senate later that same year.

Judge Gallagher presides at the Edward N. Cahn United States Courthouse and Federal Building, located on West Hamilton Street, in Allentown, Pennsylvania.