



**Judge Carlyn Hicks** has long championed efforts to ensure robust legal systems involving youth and families. With a career dedicated to public interest and youth court law, Hicks is uniquely suited for this work as Hinds County Youth Court Judge. She is called upon regionally and nationwide to present on topics related to quality family representation, court improvement, and policy reform in child welfare. Widely honored for her many contributions to the improvement of the lives of children in Mississippi and beyond, Hicks was appointed by Mississippi Supreme Court Chief Justice, Mike Randolph, to serve as a special judge for the Hinds County Court. Her appointment was extended by the governor and she became Hinds County Court Judge, for Subdistrict One.

A recipient of numerous awards and honors for her service to children, families, and the legal profession, Hicks is the only judge in the state of Mississippi who is a Certified Child Welfare Specialist, accredited by the American Bar Association and the National Association of Counsel for Children. Hicks presides over the Hinds County Youth Court, where she serves the children, youth, and families of Hinds County. She is a graduate of Jackson State University and Mississippi College School of Law.