



Judge Ashleigh Parker Dunston is a District Court Judge in the 10th Judicial District, which encompasses Wake County, located in Raleigh, NC. Prior to her appointment by Governor Roy Cooper in 2017, Judge Dunston served the citizens of North Carolina as an Assistant Attorney General at the North Carolina Department of Justice and as an Assistant District Attorney at the Wake County District Attorney's Office.

Judge Dunston graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Wake Forest University and cum laude from North Carolina Central University School of Law. She has been practicing law since she was 24 years old. At age 30, Judge Dunston was only the 3rd and youngest African American female to hold this position in Wake County since the District Courts were established over 50 years ago.

Judge Dunston prides herself on her judicial philosophy of being "R.E.A.L.: Respectful, Efficient, Active in the Community, and Learned in the Law." Judge Dunston is passionate about increasing equity within the criminal justice system and educating our youth. She has

written for multiple publications, including the North Carolina State Bar Journal, on topics related to racism, sexism, and natural hair within the legal profession. Additionally, Judge Dunston has held numerous leadership positions in her profession and is currently Vice Chair of the NC State Bar CLE Committee and President of the 10th Judicial District Bar and Wake County Bar Association where she is the first African American female to be President of both bars and the youngest ever.

Judge Dunston serves as the lead Child Support Judge in Wake County and one of two Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Judges. She is the Co-Founder of the Capital City Lawyer's Association Law Day Program. Since its inception in 2014, this program has afforded over 900 minority high school students the opportunity to engage in a mock trial, interact with minority officers and attorneys, and take a tour of the local jail. Most recently, Judge Dunston is also the Co-Founder of the Wake County Legal Support Center which opened on January 9, 2023. This Center provides free legal information for individuals who wish to represent themselves with domestic and housing issues.

Lastly, Judge Dunston is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated. She lives in Raleigh with her 2 sons where they attend Elevation Church. For more information about Judge Dunston you can visit her website at www.JudgeAshleigh.com.