



In November 2013, President Barack Obama nominated **Steven M. Wellner** for appointment to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The Senate confirmed his nomination as Associate Judge on November 19, 2015. He is currently assigned to Family Court and has also served in the Civil and Criminal Divisions. He is a member of the Court's IT Steering Committee, the Judicial Education Committee, and the Pro Bono Committee.

Judge Wellner was born in Madison, Wisconsin, lived briefly there and in Honolulu, Hawaii, and grew up outside Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated from Randallstown High School, received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Virginia in 1981 and a law degree from the University of Michigan in 1985.

After law school, Judge Wellner joined the Washington office of a national law firm. His practice as an associate included general litigation, government contracts, intellectual property and environmental law. He left the law firm in 1989 and worked for a year as an attorney-advisor in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of General Counsel, Air Division. He then returned to the law firm to focus on the practice of environmental law. He remained at the firm as an associate and then a partner until 2006. For ten years, Judge Wellner was Pro Bono Coordinator for the firm's Washington office, promoting and facilitating pro bono opportunities for lawyers of all practice areas and levels of experience.

In 2006, Judge Wellner was appointed to serve as an administrative law judge with the District of Columbia Office of Administrative Hearings. During his tenure with OAH, Judge Wellner heard cases involving unemployment benefits, rental housing, public school discipline, public works and other administrative matters. From 2011 until 2015, he was Principal Administrative Law Judge for Unemployment Insurance Appeals.

Judge Wellner served for many years in leadership roles with local nonprofit organizations.