

## Judge Erika L. Matthews McJimpsey



Judge Erika L. Matthews McJimpsey was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee to the parents of Sherman E. and Brenda J. Matthews. Erika is married to Apostie Ryan V. McJimpsey (Family Worship Ministries). They have two children – Judah and Cyrus.

Judge McJimpsey is a 1988 graduate of Brainerd High School and a former member of Second Missionary Baptist Church.

Erika is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Journalism and a graduate of North Carolina Central University with a Juris Doctorate in Law. Erika is a Municipal Judge for the City of Spartanburg, South Carolina. Erika is the first African-American to

hold this position. Prior to this position, she served as an instructor at Greenville Technical College where she taught in the Criminal Justice and Paralegal Departments.

Erika served as an Assistant Legal Counsel at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. She was the first African-American female prosecutor for the Seventh Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office. She has also worked as an adjunct professor at several local colleges.

Erika served as a Judge Advocate General in the U.S. Army Reserves for over ten years.

Much of Erika's volunteer work has been with children and includes FACES (future attorneys challenging elementary students) a mentoring program for elementary students, 1993-1995; YMCA Black Achievers, 1997-2000; Phyllis Wheatley Big Brothers Big Sisters, 1998-2002; Mountain to Midlands Girl Scouts Board Member, 2012-2013; School Improvement Council Anderson Mill Elementary School 2012-2014; Spartanburg Methodist College Paralegal Advisory, 2012-2015.

Erika has received numerous awards including the 2004 Ernest Hollings Award for Excellence in State Prosecution (Family Court). She is a frequent lecturer and volunteer in her community.

Erika is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.