



Court of Appeals Judge Latrice A. Westbrook was born in Memphis, Tennessee. She received her law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy Law School. Upon graduation, Judge Westbrook moved to Mississippi and set a historical precedent by becoming the first African-American woman Assistant District Attorney in the Second Circuit Court District for the State of Mississippi.

Judge Westbrook later moved to Jackson, joining Attorney Isaac Byrd as a contributing member of the law firm of Byrd and Associates where she successfully litigated various cases. Chief among her litigation accomplishments was obtaining a \$13.1 million dollar jury verdict on behalf of her clients.

In December 2001, Judge Westbrook opened her law practice where she serviced numerous clients in both criminal and civil matters. She successfully represented people charged with serious offenses by ensuring the protection of her client's constitutional rights, as guaranteed in both the United States and Mississippi Constitutions. She often provided her services free of charge. One notable pro bono case she handled was a young African American mother, wrongfully charged with the murder of her infant son. Through Judge Westbrook's efforts, she proved that the child died of pneumonia and heart disease. The young mother was cleared of all charges and finally able to grieve the loss of her son without the threat of going to prison for the rest of her life. Her belief in protecting one's due process rights extended to young children seeking an education in the public school system without becoming the object of a school



system's improper and often blatant discriminatory disciplinary procedures. Additionally, Judge Westbrook represented the Democrats in the State Capitol against the Republican establishment in support of proposed MS Constitutional Amendment Initiative 42, a measure designed to protect a child's fundamental right to educational opportunities through the 12th grade.

Her pro bono practice also included volunteering to help many citizens expunge their criminal records throughout Mississippi in cooperation with state and local officials, the Magnolia Bar Association, One Voice, the Mississippi NAACP under the leadership of Attorney Derrick Johnson, and the Mississippi Center for Justice. Her advocacy for women and children also led to a professional relationship with the Southern Poverty Law Center's Mississippi Justice Youth Project and the ACLU.

In 2013, Judge Westbrook joined the City of Jackson under the administrative leadership of the late Civil Rights icon, Mayor Chokwe Lumumba, as the interim-Communications Director. She then joined the City Attorney's Office as the legal counsel for the Jackson Police Department. After the passing of Mayor Lumumba in early 2014, Judge Westbrook rejoined the private sector. In January 2015, she was appointed to serve as the Municipal Judge for the City of Lexington and served in that capacity until her election to the Mississippi Court of Appeals on November 8, 2016.

Judge Westbrook is a member of the Mississippi Bar, Magnolia Bar Association, National Bar Association, the National Conference of Black Lawyers, the Capital Area Bar Association and



the Metro Jackson Black Women Lawyers Association. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and a life member of the NAACP. She previously served as a Southeast Regional and Central Director of the Magnolia Bar Association and chaired the Criminal Justice Committee for the State Conference of the NAACP. She is also a former member of the Mississippi Association for Justice and the Mississippi Public Defenders Association. Currently, she serves as a member of the 2019-2020 Jackson Junior League Community Advisory Council. Her past affiliations also include serving as a board member of Leadership Greater Jackson Alumnae, the I.S. Sanders YMCA, the National African American Student Leadership Conference and the Magnolia Bar's liaison on the State Judicial Study Committee.

Judge Westbrook is a resident of Lexington, Mississippi. She is a member of Cade Chapel M.B. Church where she serves on the Executive Committee for the Youth Department. She is the daughter of Lucille Westbrook Bennett and Bennie White, Sr.