



MICHAEL R. MORGAN

Candidate for Governor of North Carolina

Senior Associate Justice (retired), Supreme Court of North Carolina

Michael Rivers Morgan was born in Cherry Point, North Carolina to Barbara and the late Leander R. Morgan and is the eldest of five children. The family resided in Washington, D.C. until young Mike was the age of six, when the family relocated to his mother's hometown of New Bern, North Carolina. As an eight-year-old fifth grader in 1964, Mike was the first Black student to attend all-white Trent Park Elementary School, becoming one of the five Black students that year to integrate the New Bern public school system city-wide. In the eleventh grade, he became the first Black drum major of the marching band of New Bern Senior High School.

Upon graduating from the New Bern public school system at the age of sixteen, Mike earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in both History and Sociology from Duke University. He went on to obtain his Juris Doctor Degree, with honors, from North Carolina Central University School of Law, where he served as the student body president during his final year of law school.

Justice Morgan served on the legal staff of the North Carolina Department of Justice for ten years following law school, first as a research assistant, then as an Associate Attorney General, and later as an Assistant Attorney General. In 1989, he was appointed as an Administrative Law Judge with the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings. While in this capacity, he administered the oath of office to his father, the first and only African-American to serve as mayor of the City of New Bern. This historic event was featured nationally in an article titled "Swearing in His Dad" in the February 19, 1990 issue of *Jet Magazine*.

In 1994, Justice Morgan was appointed as a Wake County District Court Judge by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., and he was subsequently elected to the judgeship by the voters of Wake County in 1996 and again in 2000. He was elected to the Superior Court bench in 2004 for an eight-year term and was re-elected to the post in 2012. In his first statewide quest for elective office, Justice Morgan was elected in November 2016 to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. He is the only jurist in the history of the State of North Carolina to have held four different judgeships, and is the first and only Omega man to sit on North Carolina's highest court.

Justice Morgan is a Life Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He was initiated into the Fraternity on the charter line of Omega Zeta Chapter at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina in April 1974. Justice Morgan is an active member of Iota Iota Chapter of Raleigh, North Carolina, in which he has been appointed to numerous committee chairmanships and has been elected to several offices, including the presiding post of Basileus. He has also served in various positions of fraternity leadership on the Sixth District level for North and South Carolina as well as on the International level, including his role as the Grand Marshal for Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's 76th Grand Conclave held in Raleigh, North Carolina in July 2010. Justice Morgan currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Fraternity's Friendship Foundation. He has been recognized as Iota Iota Chapter's Citizen of the Year and twice as its Omega Man of the Year. Justice Morgan has also been awarded the Iota Iota Chapter's Founders Award, the Sixth District's Founders Award, and the International Founders Award.

Justice Morgan is married to the former Audrey Phillips of Raleigh. Between them, they have an adult daughter, an adult son, and five grandchildren. Justice Morgan and his wife are active members of Rush Metropolitan AME Zion Church in Raleigh, where he serves as Chair of the Steward Board and in several other capacities.