JUDGE STEPHANIE DOMITROVICH, PhD

Judge Stephanie Domitrovich has served on the Erie County bench in both divisions (Trial Court and Family/Orphans' Court) since being elected in 1989. She was an Administrative Judge in Family/Orphans' Court. Her past experience includes serving as Assistant Erie County Solicitor from 1983 to 1989 and engaging in private practice. She received her BA from Carlow University (summa cum laude) in 1976 and her JD from Duquesne University School of Law in 1979. She graduated in Dec. of 1993 with MJS (Master of Judicial Studies) in Trial Judge Major from Univ. of Nevada at Reno (UNR) and National Judicial College (NJC). In 1998, she earned her second major in Juvenile and Family Court Judges for MJS through UNR and National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. In May of 2006, she became first graduate to earn a PhD, Doctor of Philosophy in Judicial Studies, from UNR. Judge Domitrovich currently serves as an Executive Committee Board member for National Conference of State Trial Judges (NCSTJ). She serves on Editorial Board and is Special Issues Editor on ABA (American Bar Association)/Judicial Division's The Judges' Journal. She is Chair of Forensic Science Committee of ABA/Judicial Division. She is a Public Director for Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board Inc. from 2013 to present.

In 2018, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed her to serve as a Board Member of IOLTA (PA Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts). She is an affiliate with Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science (OSAC) on Speaker Recognition regarding validity of voice data. Judge Domitrovich is Past President of Northwest PA American Inn of Court for Erie and Crawford Counties (1999-2001); Past President of Pennsylvania State Trial Court Judges (2005-06); and Past Chair of National Conference of State Trial Judges (NCSTJ) of the Judicial Division of the ABA (2010-11). In 2009, Judge Domitrovich earned Fellow status with ASTAR (Advanced Scientific & Technological Adjudication Resource). She is Past Chair of Jurisprudence Section of American Academy of Forensic Sciences (wherein she is a Fellow). In 1996, Judge Domitrovich participated for U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to educate judges in former Soviet Republic nations of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in developing their judicial systems. In 1991, Judge Domitrovich was selected by Women's Roundtable as Erie County Woman of the Year. In 2001, Judge Domitrovich received Youth on a Mission Team Inc. Adult Community Appreciation Award. Women's Law Association of Duquesne University School of Law presented her with 2007 Woman of the Year Award. In 2009, she was awarded Edinboro University of Pa. President's Martin Luther King Award for "her outstanding commitment to enhancing access and opportunities for all members of the community." In 2009, Judge Domitrovich was awarded Carlow University's Laureate award. In 2012, Judge Domitrovich received Bradley Foulk Public Service and Community Service Award from Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC). In 2013, Judge Domitrovich received Women's Care Center of Erie County, Inc. Annual Meeting Award for her work in presiding over birth parent and adoptive family hearings. In 2018, she received Pennsylvania Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession's 25th Annual Conference "Empowering Women" Award as a Trailblazing Woman Judge. In 2019, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine awarded her Citizen of the Year.

Judge Domitrovich has authored numerous Opinions and published articles in the legal field. She has been a lecturer and presenter for the Erie Co. Bar, PBA, PBI, ABA, NBI, NJC, and other professional and community organizations: Kiwanis, Jefferson Educational Society, Gannon University, Y-Men's and Women's Club, Junior Achievement of W PA et al.