



**LASHLY & BAER, P.C.**  
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**Jimmie M. Edwards**

Attorney at Law

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Judge Jimmie M. Edwards is a member of the firm's Litigation, and Government and Education practice groups. He is also a mentor, as well as assisting with the firm's recruiting and diversity committees.

Judge Edwards served St. Louis as the Director of Public Safety since 2017, when he was appointed by Mayor Lyda Krewson. Prior to this position, Edwards was appointed to the 22nd St. Louis Judicial Circuit Court and served there from 1992 to 2017. He spent most of his time on the bench as an Administrative Judge of the Family Court and Chief Juvenile Court Judge. Judge Edwards spent 15 years hearing adult cases before being appointed to the juvenile court in hopes of making a difference in the lives of children before they became criminals.



Judge Edwards is the founder of the Innovative Concept Academy, a ground-breaking school in St. Louis Missouri that acts as a last resort for at risk teens. The program garnered national attention from *CBS Early Show*, *Today Show*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and a visit from the U.S. Secretary of Education. The program also earned Edwards the "Hero Among Us" recognition by *People* magazine. *Ebony* magazine selected him to its 2013 "Power 100 Most Influential in America List" and Chief Justice of the United States John Roberts presented Judge Jimmie M. Edwards with the William Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence, one of our nation's highest judicial awards. In 2014, Judge Edwards received honorary Doctor of Law Degrees from Saint Louis University and Eden Theological Seminary.

Edwards graduated from Saint Louis University in 1978, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, and again in 1982, where he earned a Juris Doctorate degree. Judge Edwards began the private practice of law at a small law firm in St. Louis, Missouri in 1981.

**Primary Practice Areas**

- Business & Corporate
- Education
- Government & Public Agencies
- Litigation

**Bar Admissions**

- Supreme Court of Missouri

## **Education & Academic Honors**

- J.D., Saint Louis University School of Law, 1981
- B.A., Saint Louis University, 1978

## **Professional Associations**

- American Bar Association
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis
- Fair St. Louis Foundation
- Incarnate Word Foundation
- Missouri Bar Association
- Mound City Bar Association
- National Bar Association

## **Honors & Awards**

- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, Public Service Award, 2018
- Saint Louis University Black Law Student Association Lifetime Achievement Award, 2018
- The Dred Scott Freedom Award, 2018
- Mound City Bar Association, St. Louis Diversity Award, 2018
- Saint Louis Community College, Community Service Award, 2018
- Saint Louis University School of Law, Order of the Fleur de Lis Hall of Fame, 2017
- William T. Kemper Foundation, Community Service Award, 2016
- Missouri State University, Missouri Public Affairs Hall of Fame, 2016
- Missouri Association of Social Welfare, Lifetime Achievement Award, 2015
- Saint Louis University, Honorary Doctor of Law Degree, 2014
- Eden Theological Seminary, Honorary Doctor of Law Degree, 2014
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, Distinguished Lawyer Award, 2014
- National Center for State Courts (United States Supreme Court), William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence, 2013
- Ebony Magazine, POWER 100 Most influential, 2013
- Mid-America Emmy, Emmy Award for Extraordinary Educator, 2012
- St. Louis American Foundation, Stellar Performance Award, 2012
- St. Louis Metropolitan Police Foundation, Medal of Honor, 2012
- Uniting Families, Circuit Judge of the Year, 2012
- Saint Louis University, Alumni Merit Award, 2012
- Missouri Juvenile Justice Association, Andrew Jackson Higgins Excellence in Juvenile Justice Award, 2012
- PEOPLE Magazine, Editor's Choice Hero of the Year, 2011
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), inspiring St. Louisan Award, 2011
- National Bar Association, Raymond Pace Alexander Award for Outstanding Commitment to Judicial Advocacy, 2010
- Missouri Bar Foundation, Spurgeon Smithson Award, 2010
- Established Innovative Concept Academy (ICA) for Troubled Youth, 2009

- FBI National Academy Associates, Medal of Honor, 2008
- Saint Louis University, Teacher of the Year, 1999

### **Judicial Appointments and Committees**

- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis  
Board of Governors, 2020
- National Center for State Courts  
Board of Directors, 2017 - Present
- National Center for State Courts  
National Advisory Board Member, 2015 - 2017
- Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative  
Advisor, 2012 - 2017
- Supreme Court of Missouri  
Education Committee Member, 2015
- Supreme Court of Missouri  
Civil Rules Committee Member, 2005 - 2006
- Judicial Conference of the State of Missouri  
Executive Council Member, 2005
- Supreme Court of Missouri  
State Judicial Records Committee Chairman, 1995 - 2017

### **Presentations and Legal Publications**

- William H. Rehnquist Award Keynote Speaker, Supreme Court of the United States
- National Judicial College, Court involved individuals with Substance Abuse Disorders, Williamsburg, VA
- Saint Louis University Commencement Speaker
- Maryville University Commencement Speaker
- Missouri State University Commencement Speaker
- International Society for Criminal Justice, Keynote Speaker, Vancouver, BC Canada
- Ted Talk, “Ideas Worth Spreading-Encouraging the Incurable”
- Vermont Law School, Dr. Martin Luther King Day Speaker, South Royalton, VT
- American Bar Association Civil Rights and Social Justice-Gender Race Equality in the Judiciary
- Missouri Southern State University, Dr. Martin Luther King Day Speaker
- Webster University George H. Walker Series, “School to Prison Pipeline”
- Missouri Juvenile Justice Association
- National Youth Summit, Keynote Speaker
- Missouri City Managers Association, Speaker, “A Safer St. Louis: A Vision for Public Safety”, Columbia, Missouri
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated – Youth Summit
- Grand Boule, Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Cincinnati, OH
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis Corporate Counsel Institute, Keynote Speaker
- National Juvenile Defender Center, “School of Prison Pipeline”
- Washington University in St. Louis, Brown School of Social Work Lecture

- National Judicial College, “Privacy and Public Access to Court Records”, Williamsburg, VA
- National Juvenile Detention Alternative, Dual Jurisdiction, Houston, TX
- United States District Court Eastern District of Missouri Naturalization, Keynote Speaker
- United States District Court Eastern District of Missouri Federal Practice, Keynote Speaker
- National Conference of Chief Justices Annual Conference, Keynote Speaker
- National Conference of State Court Administrators, Keynote Speaker, Philadelphia, PA
- American Association of Blacks in Energy, Keynote Speaker
- Center for Children Youth Justice, Seattle, WA
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis Lawyers Annual Conference, Speaker
- Federal District Court, Speaker, “Reinventing Older Communities”, Philadelphia, PA
- Law and Community Support of Black Churches, Speaker, South Carolina
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Speaker, “Defending Childhood”, New York, NY
- American Institution of Architects for Justice
- Courting Justice (PBS Television Series)- Tavis Smiley, Panellist, 2016
- Feature Film Documentary, “For Ahkeem,” 2017
- National League of Cities City Summit Addressing Violence, Speaker

### **Employment History**

- Lashly & Baer, P.C.  
Counsel, 2021 - Present
- City of St. Louis, Missouri  
Public Safety Director, 2017 - Present
- 22nd Judicial Circuit Court, State of Missouri  
Circuit Judge, 1992 - 2017
- Administrative Judge  
Family Court and Juvenile Division, 2007 - 2012
- Innovative Concept Academy  
Founder, 2009 - Present
- Supreme Court of Missouri  
Special Supreme Court Judge Member, 2006 - 2017
- Saint Louis University  
Adjunct Professor, College of Public Health and Social Justice, 2015 - 2019  
Guest Lecturer, School of Law, 1993 - 1996  
Adjunct Professor, School of Professional Studies, 1982 - 2010
- Webster University  
Adjunct Professor, Legal Studies, 2012 - 2019
- Southwestern Bell Telephone Company  
Litigation Attorney, 1989 - 1992
- Sabreliner Corporation  
Corporate Counsel, 1984-1989
- Missouri Circuit Clerk’s Office, Civil Courts Building

- Legal Advisor to Circuit Clerk, 1983 - 1984
- Collier and Dorsey Law Firm  
Attorney, General Practice of Law, 1980-1982