

T. Michael Peay, Esq.

Judge Peay earned his B.A. degree in Political Science (with honors) in 1968 at Coppin State College, spending his junior year abroad (with credits) studying Economics, French, European History, and African Studies at the University of Paris (*L'institut d'Études Politiques*) and at the Institute of European Studies. He earned his M.A. in International Relations (with honors) in 1970 at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), where he studied international economics, international law and organizations, and African Affairs. Afterward, he earned his J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1973. Upon earning his law degree, Mr. Peay entered law practice as an associate attorney at the prestigious law firm of Hogan & Hartson (now Hogan Lovells), where he practiced corporate, administrative and tax law. In 1975, he was appointed National Director of the Southern Africa Project for the *Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law*. He served in that capacity successfully using the legal systems of the U.S. and the apartheid countries of South Africa, Namibia and Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) to combat apartheid in those countries.

In 1977, he was recruited into the *U.S. Department of State (DOS), Office of the Legal Adviser (L)* as a career attorney-adviser, with an initial 2-year assignment in the *office for Near East and South Asian Affairs*. He then accepted a political appointment to become Special Assistant to the *U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations (U.N.)*, where he also served as the Director of their Washington, D.C. office at the DOS. After, he returned to the DOS-L as Deputy Director in the *Office of International Law Enforcement and Intelligence Affairs*. He served there, negotiating over a dozen U.S. extradition and mutual legal assistance treaties with countries in Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean and North Africa. In 1987, he was promoted to career Senior Executive status. His first assignment was Office Director in the *legal office responsible for European and Canadian Affairs*. There he served as chief legal adviser to the U.S. team that negotiated an 8-year extension of the US-Greece Military Bases Agreement, and oversaw his staff's negotiation of similar base agreements with other European countries. He also advised his European Bureau clients on numerous legal issues arising from the initial stages of the Soviet Union's dissolution. He was then selected to be Director of the *Legal Office for Inter-American (or Latin American/Western Hemisphere) Affairs*. Among other achievements, he served as legal adviser to the *U.S. Mission to the OAS*. In 2000, he was selected to serve a 3-year tour of duty (extended to 5 years) as the Senior Legal Adviser to the *U.S. Mission to the U.N.* in Geneva. There, he served as the U.S.' principal representative at the Governing Council of the "*U.N. Compensation Commission*". Then, he returned to the DOS for several months on interim assignment as Director of the *legal office for Middle East and South Asian Affairs*. In 2006, he began a 3-year assignment in Paris as Senior Legal Adviser to the *U.S. Mission to UNESCO* (the UN Education, Science, and Cultural Organization). There, he served as the legal adviser to the *U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO* and to Mission staff advising on a wide range of legal and policy issues arising before UNESCO. Following this, before retiring, he served as Assistant Legal Adviser directing the office of "*Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs*". There, he served providing day-to-day legal advice on a broad range of issues arising in the conduct of U.S. public diplomacy abroad.

In 2012, Mr. Peay retired as a Senior Executive Service (SES) attorney in the DOS-L, after 33 years of distinguished government service. In other areas, he served 6 years as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of International Legal Materials. He is a former member of the Council on Foreign Relations, a member of the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs, and a member of the Advisory Council of the French-American Cultural Foundation. He is an active member of the Bars of the District of Columbia and the U.S. Supreme Court.

He has been a judge on the Administrative Tribunal since 2018.