

United States Courts for the Third Judicial Circuit

February 18, 2026

JUDGE ANTHONY J. SCIRICA RECOGNIZED WITH AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY JUDICIAL SERVICE

PHILADELPHIA. Chief Judge Michael A. Chagares of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit announced that Senior Circuit Judge Anthony J. Scirica will be the inaugural recipient of an award named in his honor to recognize exemplary judicial service in the Third Judicial Circuit. Chief Judge Chagares will present the “Honorable Anthony J. Scirica Judicial Service Award” to Judge Scirica at a dinner meeting attended by judges and lawyers on May 6, 2026, at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

In announcing the Third Circuit’s establishment of the Scirica Award, Chief Judge Chagares observed: “It is a fitting testament to the breadth and depth of Judge Scirica’s legacy that he will be the first jurist recognized with this distinguished service award bearing his name. Tony Scirica is universally admired by the bench and bar as the ‘gold standard’ for judicial service. In more than forty years as a trial and appellate court judge, he has served the courts with great distinction, combining his trademark humility and compassion with a brilliant intellect and the highest ethical standards. Judge Scirica has been a mentor, teacher, and esteemed colleague to generations of judges, practitioners, law clerks, and students. I am proud that we have established this award in his name and honored to have the privilege of recognizing Judge Scirica for his exemplary career on the bench.”

Anthony J. Scirica is a senior judge on the United States Court of Appeals

for the Third Circuit. He was appointed to the Court of Appeals in 1987 and served as chief judge of the Court from 2003 to 2010. He assumed senior status in 2013. Judge Scirica served as a District Judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania from 1984 to 1987, and as a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, from 1980 to 1984. From 1971 to 1979, Judge Scirica was a legislator in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, where he chaired both the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and the Pennsylvania Sentencing Commission. Judge Scirica also served as Assistant District Attorney and engaged in the private practice of law in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

During his tenure on the bench, Judge Scirica has played a vital role in policymaking for the federal judiciary. He served as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States and chaired the Judicial Conference's Standing Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. He was a member of the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules, Chair of the Judicial Conference Working Group on Mass Torts, and served as a member of the Judicial Panel on Multi-District Litigation. He is also a member of the Council of the American Law Institute and has been a long-time Senior Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

The Scirica Award recognizes exemplary judicial service in the courts of the Third Circuit. The Award will be presented at meetings of the Third Circuit Judicial Conference. The Third Judicial Circuit consists of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the District and Bankruptcy Courts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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