

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 2023

It is with great sadness that the Judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit note the passing of our beloved former colleague, the Honorable Maryanne Trump Barry. Judge Barry passed away at the age of 86 on November 13, 2023.

Speaking on behalf of the Court of Appeals, Chief Judge Michael A. Chagares noted that “Judge Barry left an indelible mark on her colleagues and the litigants who appeared before her, both in her time as a trial judge and on the Court of Appeals. Judge Barry was a larger-than-life presence in the courtroom, incredibly smart, and passionate about the law and ensuring equal justice to all who appeared before her. Early in my career, I had the privilege of trying a case in Judge Barry’s courtroom. She was rightly seen by the bar as one of the finest trial judges in the country. And she was a trailblazing woman in the law. Importantly, she was a kind, witty, and generous person who lacked any pretense. She was a wonderful colleague and friend. My colleagues and I are deeply saddened by Judge Barry’s passing and will always cherish her legacy as a member of our Court and the Third Circuit legal community.”

Judge Barry received her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College and an M.A. in public law and government from Columbia University. After receiving her J.D. from Hofstra University School of Law, Judge Barry served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey from 1974 to 1983. At the time she was hired, Judge Barry was one of only two women among sixty-two lawyers at the United States Attorney's Office in New Jersey. Judge Barry excelled in the role, becoming Chief of the Appeals Division from 1977 to 1982, Executive Assistant United States Attorney from 1981 to 1982, and First Assistant United States Attorney from 1981 to 1983.

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan appointed Judge Barry to a seat on the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, where she served with distinction for sixteen years sitting in Newark, New Jersey. In 1999, after a unanimous confirmation vote in the Senate, President Bill Clinton appointed Judge Barry to the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Judge Barry retired from the judiciary in 2019, after almost twenty years of exemplary service as an appellate judge. In addition to her duties as a sitting judge, Judge Barry took on the substantial role of Chair of the Criminal Law Committee of the United States Judicial Conference, served on the Judicial Advisory Group of the United States Sentencing Commission, and was a Commissioner of the Supreme Court Fellows Program.

In a career with many notable achievements, Judge Barry was the first woman to hold the position of Chair of the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary. She was also recognized with awards such as the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award and the William J. Brennan Jr. Award. In 2004, she received the Justice Sandra Day O'Connor Medal of Honor presented by Seton Hall University Law School in recognition of women who have distinguished themselves in the law and public service. In bestowing this prestigious award upon Judge Barry, Justice O'Connor aptly observed, "Judge Barry turns every outdated stereotype about women on its head, and at the same time exemplifies the very best ideals of public service in our profession.... Judge Barry's exceptional work on the bench and her selfless record of public service stand as shining examples to everyone in the legal profession."

The Court extends its deepest condolences to Judge Barry's family.