

Marguerite Woodstock Riley QC

Marguerite Woodstock Riley Q.C attained her LLB degree with Upper Second Class Honours from the University of the West Indies in 1980 and her Legal Education Certificate from the Norman Manley Law School in 1982.

In 1985 she was awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship and obtained her Masters Degree from the University of Cambridge, (Trinity Hall)

She is admitted to practice in Barbados, Jamaica, the Turks and Caicos Islands, St. Vincent and The Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Grenada and has had legal attachments to law firms in Jamaica, Washington DC, USA and the Turks and Caicos Islands. Practicing for the past thirty-seven years, she has established her own law chambers in Barbados and Jamaica and has two (2) associate Attorneys-at-Law. Mrs. Woodstock Riley Q.C has extensive experience in civil litigation in the High Court and Court of Appeal. She has also appeared before the Caribbean Court of Justice. Practice areas include insurance, personal injury, maritime, environmental and family law. Clients have included regional and international institutions, financial institutions, insurance companies, airline owners, ship owners, media institutions, hotels, architects, electrical contractors. She has experience in arbitration proceedings and practical management of contractual and construction disputes.

In 2009 she was honored to be appointed as a Queens Counsel and has acted as a Judge of The Supreme Court of Barbados. In 2021 she was appointed a Judge of the Court of Appeal of Belize, an itinerant position. She was Chairperson of the Barbados Legal Profession Disciplinary Committee



Commonwealth Law Conference 2021 and has appeared on behalf of the Committee in disciplinary procedures in the Court of Appeal. She participated in the Regional Justice Sector Reform Project: "Improved Access to Justice in the Caribbean". The Project had as its ultimate outcome, enhanced access to justice benefiting men, women, youth and businesses in 13 CARICOM (Caribbean) Member States. She has previously made presentations to the Barbados Bar Association, the Jamaican Bar Association and members of the Judiciary and Legal Profession of the Caribbean.

Mrs. Woodstock Riley Q.C is a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers, an Academy of lawyers practicing internationally in the jurisdiction of matrimonial and family law. It recognises the diversity of laws of sovereign states and increasing multinational jurisdictional issues. She is also a listed Attorney with Reunite International recognised as the leading United Kingdom charity specialising in international parental child abduction and the movement of children across international borders.

She is a member of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association, an organisation for professional lawyers, academics and students practising within the Commonwealth. It exists to maintain and promote the rule of law throughout the Commonwealth by ensuring that an independent and efficient legal profession serves the people of the Commonwealth. She is also a member of the Royal Commonwealth Society, Barbados Branch. Mrs. Woodstock Riley Q.C. has acted as a second examiner for the Masters in Law at the University of the West Indies and has provided expert opinion to a foreign Government agency and to the Court in the United Kingdom.

Mrs. Woodstock-Riley QC was the first non-United Kingdom based President of Soroptimist International of Great Britain & Ireland. Soroptimist International is a worldwide organization working through service projects to advance human rights and gender equality. She has traveled extensively in the Caribbean, the United Kingdom, Europe, Africa and Asia and has spoken in various forums on a variety of issues. She has also attended the Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations, New York and addressed a parallel workshop on empowering women through micro-credit. She was also appointed by the Government of Barbados as the Chairperson for the National Advisory Council on Family Matters and is a member and legal adviser of the Barbados Cancer Society Breast Screening Committee.

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