

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with The Honorable Barrington D. Parker, Jr.

PERSON

Parker, Barrington D.  
(Barrington Daniels), 1944-  
**Alternative Names:** The Honorable Barrington D.  
Parker, Jr.;

**Life Dates:** August 21, 1944-

**Place of Birth:** Washington, District of Columbia,  
USA

**Work:** New York City, NY

**Occupations:** Federal Circuit Court Judge

## Biographical Note

Judge Barrington D. Parker, Jr. was born on August 21, 1944 in Washington, D.C. to Federal Judge Barrington D. Parker, Sr. and Marjorie Holloman Parker, board

chair of the University of the District of Columbia. Parker graduated from McKinley Technical High School, and earned his B.A. degree in history from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut in 1965. He then received his LL.B. degree from Yale Law School in 1969.

Parker began his legal career as a clerk for Judge Aubrey E. Robinson, Jr., an African American judge on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. He joined the firm of Sullivan & Cromwell in New York City as an associate in 1970, where he specialized in general commercial litigation. In 1977, Parker and three other partners founded the law firm of Parker, Auspitz, Neesemann, & Delehanty, P.C. which, in 1987, merged with Morrison & Foerster, an international law firm based out of San Francisco, California. In 1994, Parker was appointed to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York by President Bill Clinton. His cases in the district court included Trinity United Methodist Parish v. Board of Education of Newburgh, where he upheld a church's right to rent space within a public school, and the trial of businessman Albert J. Pirro, Jr., who was indicted for conspiracy and tax evasion. In 2001, President George W. Bush nominated Parker to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the Senate confirmed him 100-0. On the circuit court, he was involved in several prominent cases involving the rights of terrorism suspects, including Rumsfeld v. Padilla, where Parker ruled that Al Qaeda suspect Jose Padilla must be offered habeas corpus as an American citizen, and Arar v. Ashcroft, where Parker wrote a dissenting opinion stating that Maher Arar's rights had been violated by the Bush administration's policy of extraordinary rendition. Parker assumed senior status in 2009.

Parker served on the board of trustees for the Yale Corporation, and on the board of The Harlem School of the Arts, the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the Central Park Conservancy.

Parker has three children: Christine, Kathleen, and Jennifer.

Judge Barrington D. Parker, Jr. was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on October 5, 2016.

## Related Entries

**Monroe School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Benjamin Banneker Academic High School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**McKinley Technology High School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**Yale University** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**B.A.**

**Yale Law School** [STUDENTOF]

[from ? to ?]

**LL.B.**

**Phillips Exeter Academy** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1965 to 1966]

**Professor**

**NAACP Legal Defense Fund** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1967 to 1967]

**Summer Intern**

**Office of the Corporation Counsel for Washington**

**D.C.** [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 1968 to 1968]

**Summer Intern**

**Sullivan and Cromwell LLP** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1970 to 1977]

**Associate**

**Parker, Auspitz, Neesemann and Delehanty, P.C.**  
[EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1977 to 1987]

**Partner**

**Morrison and Foerster LLP** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1987 to 1994]

**Partner**

**United States District Court for the Southern District  
of New York** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 1994 to 2000]

**Judge**

**United State Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit**  
[EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 2001 to ?]

**Judge**

**United States District Court for the District of  
Columbia** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from 196908 to 1970]

**Law Clerk for Judge Aubrey E. Robinson, Jr.**

[MEMBEROF]  
[from ? to ?]

**The Harlem School of the Arts** [MEMBEROF]  
[from 1978 to ?]

**Board Member**

**NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund** [MEMBEROF]  
[from 1980 to 1994]

**Board Member**

**Central Park Conservancy** [MEMBEROF]  
[from 1981 to 1994]

**Board Member**

**Yale Corporation** [MEMBEROF]  
[from 1999 to ?]

**Board of Trustees**