



Department of Veterans Affairs

Washington, D.C.

Eligah Dane Clark

Eligah Dane Clark was confirmed as chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals of the Department of Veterans Affairs by the U.S. Senate on October 21, 1998, following his nomination by President Clinton. At the time of his appointment as chairman, Mr. Clark was a senior judge of the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals in Washington, D.C.

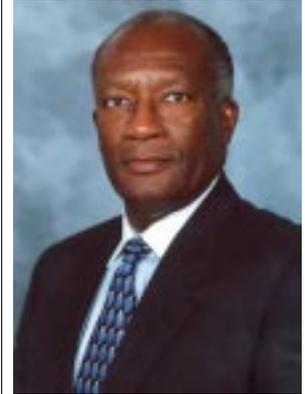
In his Assistant Secretary-level position as chairman, Mr. Clark oversees all activities of the Board, which decides veterans' appeals of VA claims adjudication decisions. The Board issues more than 35,000 decisions a year. Mr. Clark directs the activities of approximately 65 Board members, 260 additional attorneys, and 170 support personnel. The Board has an annual operating budget of \$40 million.

Mr. Clark received a bachelor of science degree in biology from Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Ala., in 1963 and a master of science degree in modern romance languages from Emporia State University in Emporia, Kan., in 1968. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1968, where he served in communications before his selection for Officer Candidate School. After receiving his commission in 1969, Mr. Clark served as an infantry officer and as an instructor before briefly leaving active duty in 1972. He taught French at Alcorn State University in Mississippi before returning to active duty in 1974 as a law student at the University of Mississippi School of Law, from which he received a doctor of law degree in 1977.

Among his many active duty assignments, Mr. Clark has served as a defense counsel, legal assistance officer, prosecutor, appellate counsel, trial judge, and appellate judge. Before joining the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals in 1994, he served as the Deputy Chief Judge of the Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary in Washington, DC, and as Chief Judge of the Western Pacific Judicial Area in Okinawa, Japan. He has also served as the Chief Military Judge of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit in Washington, DC, of the Keystone Judicial Circuit in Okinawa, and of the Sierra Judicial Circuit in California.

In addition to teaching French at the college level, Mr. Clark has taught French, biology, and general science at several high schools. He lectured in judicial methodology at the Naval Justice School in Newport, R.I. He also has provided legal instruction and lectured extensively at local, regional, and national attorney associations.

Mr. Clark is recognized to practice before the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi. He is a member of the Federal Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the American Judges Association, the Mississippi State Bar, the Okinawa Bench and Bar Association, the Bar of the Court of Appeals of the Armed Forces, and the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States.



**Chairman, Board
of Veterans' Appeals**