

## **BIOGRAPHY OF THE HON.MADAM JUSTICE S.MAUREEN CRANE–SCOTT, Q.C.**

Stella Maureen Crane-Scott was born in Guyana on February 2, 1956. She began her tertiary level education at the University of Guyana and the University of the West Indies and obtained the Bachelor of Laws LL.B (Hons.) degree from the Cave Hill Campus in 1977. She graduated from the Hugh Wooding Law School, Trinidad and Tobago in 1979 with the Certificate of Legal Education and was later called to the Guyana Bar as an Attorney-at-Law in 1979.

Following her admission to the Guyana Bar in 1979, she began her legal career in the public service of Guyana as a State Prosecutor with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. She subsequently became attached to the well-known legal firm of Messrs. Milholland, Ashenheim & Stone in Kingston, Jamaica as an Associate Attorney-at-Law.

In 1985, she joined the Barbados Public Service as Senior Crown Counsel with the Attorney General's Office. In 1988 she was appointed to the post of Principal Crown Counsel (Research) within the Attorney General's Chambers. In 1992, she was awarded a Masters Degree in Law (LL.M) from the University of the West Indies with a major in Legislative Drafting.

In 1993 she was seconded to the University of the West Indies and worked as Project Coordinator of the UWI/UNDCP Legal Training Programme with responsibility for the conduct of training programmes for regional magistrates, police prosecutors and Crown/State Counsel in 18 English speaking Commonwealth Caribbean states. She also coordinated the preparation and dissemination of Drug Abuse (Prevention and Control) model laws and the preparation of two training manuals on the Prosecution of Drug Offences for Prosecutors and Magistrates respectively.

On her return to the Attorney General's Chambers from the University of the West Indies in 1996, she served as Acting Deputy Solicitor General until July 1997 when she was appointed Registrar of the Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property Office. She served as Head of Department at the Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property Office (CAIPO) for some eight (8) years.

Mrs. Crane-Scott was appointed to the Inner Bar of Barbados as a Queen's Counsel by the Hon. Chief Justice of Barbados, Sir David Simmons in June, 2005. She was subsequently promoted to the post of Registrar of the Supreme Court in 2005. In 2007 she was elevated to the honour and dignity of Judge of the High Court and currently serves in the Civil, Criminal and Family Divisions of that Court.

Over the period of her career in the Barbados Public Service, Mrs. Crane-Scott served on numerous governmental Committees and Working Groups on a variety of legal subjects. These included *ex officio* membership of the Advisory Committee on Intellectual Property established to advise the Ministry of Industry and International Business on Intellectual Property issues; *Ex officio* membership of the Anti-Money Laundering Authority (AMLA); membership of the Committee established to

review and advise on amendments to the Barbados securities legislation and membership of the Legal and Ambush Marketing Team (LAMAT) in preparation for Barbados' hosting of Cricket World Cup.

Justice Crane-Scott is now a member of the Barbados Judicial & Legal Service Commission and is an *ex officio* member of the Rules Committee and the Judicial Council respectively. She has also served as Chair of the Chief Justice's Backlog Reduction Committee and has actively served on the Supreme Court Mediation Pilot Project Committee, the Chief Justice's Bench/Bar Committee and the Chief Justice's Supreme Court Website Re-Design Committee respectively.

Over the course of her legal career, Mrs. Crane-Scott has written extensively and delivered workshop lectures on a variety of legal topics. Her most recent focus has been in the areas of company law and intellectual property rights.

In her teenage years and up to the mid-1980's she was an established lawn tennis player having won numerous trophies in Guyana and in the Caribbean. In 1974 she was both the Guyana National Girl's Singles Champion, as well as the Caribbean Junior Lawn Tennis Girl's Singles Champion. In more recent times, she has taken to the more leisurely pursuit of oil painting and has exhibited three of her pieces during NIFCA 2004.