



## Iowa Supreme Court

### Chief Justice Mark S. Cady



Chief Justice Cady, Ft. Dodge, was appointed to the Iowa Supreme Court in 1998. The members of the court selected him as chief justice in 2010.

Born in Rapid City, South Dakota, Chief Justice Cady earned both his undergraduate and law degrees from Drake University. After graduating from law school in 1978, he served as a judicial law clerk for the Second Judicial District for one year. He was then appointed as an assistant Webster County attorney and practiced with a law firm in Fort Dodge. Chief Justice Cady was appointed a district associate judge in 1983 and a district court judge in 1986. In 1994, he was appointed to the Iowa Court of Appeals. He was elected chief judge of the court of appeals in 1997 and served until his appointment to the supreme court.

Chief Justice Cady is a member of the Order of the Coif (honorary), The Iowa State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Iowa Judges Association, and Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers (honorary). He also served as chair of the Supreme Court's Task Force on the Court's and Communities' Response to Domestic Abuse and is a member of the Drake Law School Board of Counselors. In 2013, Chief Justice Cady was elected to the Conference of Chief Justices Board of Directors. He is the coauthor of *Preserving the Delicate Balance Between Judicial Accountability and Independence: Merit Selection in the Post-White World*, 16 Cornell J.L. and Pub. Pol'y 101 (2008) and of *Iowa Practice: Lawyer and Judicial Ethics* (Thomson-West 2007). He is the author of *Curbing Litigation Abuse and Misuse: A Judicial Approach*, 36 Drake L. Rev. 481 (1987). Justice Cady also delivered remarks at the 2012 Drake Law School Constitutional Law Symposium, *The Iowa Judiciary, Funding, and the Poor*, 60 Drake L. Rev. 1127 (2012) and presented the inaugural Drake Law School Iowa Constitution Lecture, *A Pioneer's Constitution: How Iowa's Constitutional History Uniquely Shapes Our Pioneering Tradition in Recognizing Civil Rights and Civil Liberties*, 60 Drake L. Rev. 1133 (2012). He served on the Board of Directors of the Conference of Chief Justices and chairs its Committee on Courts, Children, and Families, and the Committee on Judicial Selection and Compensation.

Chief Justice Cady was an adjunct faculty member at Buena Vista University for more than 30 years and served on its President's Advisory Council. In 2012 he received an honorary doctorate degree in Public Service from Buena Vista University. Chief Justice Cady received the Award of Merit from the Iowa Judges Association in 2015. He received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Drake University Law School in 2011 and received the Alumni Achievement Award from Drake University in 2012. Chief Justice Cady is also the Iowa chair of iCivics Inc.

Chief Justice Cady is married with two children and two grandchildren.

### Justice Daryl L. Hecht



Justice Hecht, Sioux City, was appointed to the Iowa Supreme Court in 2006.

Raised near Lytton, Iowa, Justice Hecht received his bachelor's degree from Morningside College in 1974 and his J.D. degree from the University of South Dakota in 1977. He received his L.L.M. degree from the University of Virginia Law School in 2004. Justice Hecht practiced law in Sioux City for twenty-two years before his appointment to the court of appeals in 1999.

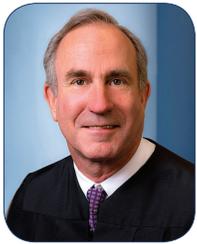
Justice Hecht is a past president of the Iowa Trial Lawyers Association. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Home and Family Services, the Morningside College Alumni



Association, the Woodbury County Judicial Magistrate Nominating Commission, and the Woodbury County Compensation Commission. Justice Hecht served as chairperson for the Iowa Supreme Court Task Force for Civil Justice Reform. The task force's final report was presented to the Iowa Supreme Court on January 30, 2012. Justice Hecht is also involved in the study of civil justice reform at the national level. He is a member of the Civil Justice Improvement Committee appointed by the Conference of Chief Justices. The committee submitted its report and recommendations to the Conference of Chief Justices in 2016.

Justice Hecht is married with two daughters and three grandchildren.

## Justice Brent R. Appel



Justice Appel, Ackworth, was appointed to the Iowa Supreme Court in 2006.

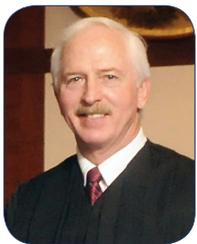
A Dubuque native, Justice Appel received his bachelor's and master's degree from Stanford University in California in 1973 and his J.D. degree from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1977. Following graduation from law school, Justice Appel served as a law clerk for the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. In 1979, Justice Appel was appointed Iowa First Assistant Attorney General, and in 1983 became Iowa Deputy Attorney General. While serving in the Iowa Attorney General's office, Justice Appel argued and briefed four cases before the United States Supreme Court, including the second "Christian burial" case, *Nix V. Williams*. In 1987 until 2006, Justice Appel was engaged in private practice in central Iowa.

Justice Appel has served as chair of the Iowa State Children's Justice Council since 2010. Between 2010 and 2016, Justice Appel was appointed by United States Chief Justice John Roberts to serve as a member of the Federal Advisory Committee on the Rules of Evidence. Since 2015, he has served as chair of the workgroup restyling the Iowa Rules of Evidence. In the summer of 2016, Justice Appel was named by the Iowa Supreme Court to chair the newly formed Access to Justice Commission.

Justice Appel is married with five sons and a daughter.

## Iowa Court of Appeals

### Chief Judge David Danilson



Chief Judge Danilson, Pleasant Hill, was appointed to the Iowa Court of Appeals in 2009. The members of the court selected him as chief judge in 2010.

Born in Perry, Iowa, and raised on a farm north of Woodward, Iowa, Chief Judge Danilson earned his bachelor's degree from Iowa State University in 1976. He graduated from Creighton University School of Law in 1979. Chief Judge Danilson was in private practice in Boone from 1980 to 1987 and during this time served as judicial hospital referee and judicial magistrate. He was appointed to the district associate bench in the Second Judicial District in 1987. Judge Danilson was appointed to the district court bench in 1997 and served two years as the assistant chief district judge of the Second Judicial District until his appointment to the court of appeals. Judge Danilson is a member of The Iowa State Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association.

Judge Danilson is married with five children.



# Judicial Performance Review Results

## Iowa Supreme Court

|  | Brent Appel | Mark Cady | Daryl Hecht |
|--|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 5 - Excellent (performance is outstanding)   |             |           |             |
| 4 - Good (performance is above average)  |             |           |             |
| 3 - Satisfactory (performance is adequate)   |             |           |             |
| 2 - Deficient (performance is below average)   |             |           |             |
| 1 - Very Poor (performance is well below average and unacceptable)   |             |           |             |
| Knowledge and application of the law   | 4.19        | 4.50      | 4.24        |
| Perception of factual issues   | 4.16        | 4.48      | 4.23        |
| Attentiveness to arguments and testimony   | 4.34        | 4.61      | 4.40        |
| Temperament and demeanor   | 4.30        | 4.70      | 4.50        |
| Clarity and quality of written opinions  | 3.98        | 4.45      | 4.22        |
| Promptness of rulings and decisions  | 3.99        | 4.37      | 4.26        |
|  |             |           |             |
| 5 - Strongly Agree   |             |           |             |
| 4 - Agree  |             |           |             |
| 3 - Neither  |             |           |             |
| 2 - Disagree   |             |           |             |
| 1 - Strongly Disagree  |             |           |             |
| Avoids undue personal observations or criticisms of litigants, judges and lawyers from bench or in written opinions.                       | 4.36        | 4.62      | 4.52        |
| Decides cases on basis of applicable law and fact, not affected by outside influence.  | 4.04        | 4.39      | 4.21        |
| Is courteous and patient with litigants, lawyers and court personnel.  | 4.46        | 4.70      | 4.60        |
| Treats people equally regardless of race, gender, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or disability. | 4.47        | 4.68      | 4.56        |
|  |             |           |             |
| Retention percentage   | 82          | 91        | 88          |
| Number of respondents  | 397         | 413       | 395         |