

Colorado Supreme Court Justice Monica M. Márquez

Justice Monica M. Márquez was appointed to the Colorado Supreme Court by Governor Bill Ritter, Jr., in 2010. She is the first Latina to serve on the Court in its history. Prior to her appointment, Justice Márquez served as Deputy Attorney General at the Colorado Attorney General's Office, where she led the State Services section in representing several state executive branch agencies and Colorado's statewide elected public officials. Justice Márquez also served as Assistant Solicitor General and as Assistant Attorney General in both the Public Officials Unit and the Criminal Appellate Section. Before joining the Attorney General's Office, Justice Márquez practiced general commercial litigation and employment law at a Denver law firm.

Justice Márquez grew up in Grand Junction, CO. She earned her bachelor's degree from Stanford University in 1991 and then served in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps as a volunteer inner-city schoolteacher and community organizer in Camden, NJ, and Philadelphia, PA, before earning her law degree from Yale Law School in 1997. Upon graduation, she clerked for Judge Michael A. Ponsor of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts in Springfield, MA, and for Judge David M. Ebel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in Denver, CO.

Justice Márquez is a member of the American Law Institute, the American Bar Association, the Colorado and Denver Bar Associations, the Colorado Women's Bar Association, and the Minoru Yasui Inn of Court. Before joining the Court, Justice Márquez served on the boards of the Colorado LGBT Bar Association, the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association, and the Latina Initiative, and as Chair of the Denver Mayor's LGBTQ Commission.

Justice Márquez serves as a liaison justice to the Office of Attorney Regulation and its related committees, and as chair of the Water Court Rules Committee. She serves as chair of the Colorado Supreme Court's Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being, and is a co-leader of the Bench Dream Team, a group of judges dedicated to diversity and inclusion in Colorado's judicial system. Justice Márquez has helped coach a mock trial team at a local alternative high school serving mostly Latino students, and she regularly mentors students and aspiring young lawyers, including a first-generation Latina college student with Law School Yes We Can. She has been recognized with numerous awards for her career of service. Justice Márquez lives in Denver with her wife and partner of 22 years and their boisterous yellow Lab, Tegan.