

HON. SHANNON FILBERT

Shannon Filbert's life was forever changed on October 27, 1998 when she was the front seat passenger in a motor vehicle accident. She went from an invincible 16-year-old girl who had her perfect life all planned out to a terrified motionless girl who thought her life was over. She was not wearing her seatbelt and suffered a spinal cord injury which rendered her a wheelchair-bound quadriplegic. Despite that tragic day Filbert continued her education and graduated from the University at Buffalo with a bachelor's degree and went on to obtain a Juris Doctorate from the University at Buffalo Law school.

The Honorable Shannon Filbert is a West Seneca Town Justice elected to the position in January 2016 and is the first woman justice in West Seneca Town history. Further, Judge Filbert serves as the Law Clerk to the Honorable Lisa Bloch Rodwin in Erie County Family Court and has served in this position since 2017. Prior to running for Justice in the Town of West Seneca Judge Filbert was the West Seneca Town Prosecutor from 2011 until the end of 2015 when she was elected Justice. She handled all types of penal law violations and vehicle and traffic law infractions on behalf of the Town residents. Judge Filbert also worked part time on the Criminal Defense panel of the Erie County Bar Association Aid to Indigent Prisoner Society, Inc from 2009 – 2015 where she represented criminal Defendants in misdemeanor matters in the Town and Village courts throughout Erie County.



Judge Filbert maintained her part-time town prosecutor position and her part time work as a criminal defense attorney all while working full time for the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, Inc., specifically in the Attorney for the Children Unit where she started in November 2008 after her admission to the New York State Bar. While working as an Attorney for Children, Judge Filbert represented the most vulnerable of our population, namely children who have been neglected or abused. Judge Filbert was recognized for her outstanding work as an Attorney for the Children when she was awarded the Attorneys for Children Fourth Department Hon. Michael F. Dillon award in 2015 and further recognized in 2016 when she received the Western New York Foster Adoptive Families Association's Shining Star Award. Judge Filbert was most recently the recipient of The Profile in Courage Award presented by the Judges and Police Conference of Erie County in 2019.

In addition to all the time Judge Filbert has spent working as an attorney she has also found time to currently serve on the Board of Directors of the Wheels with Wings Foundation. Judge Filbert is not only a long-standing member of Women Lawyers of Western New York but is also a former board member of our organization having served for several years. In addition to serving on boards of local organizations, Judge Filbert maintains membership in the Bar Association of Erie County, Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, New York State Magistrates Association and is a former member of the Western New York Prosecutors Association.

