

## **Judge Omar Williams Key Facts**

Nominated to the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut

- Judge Omar Williams has served as a Superior Court Judge in New London,
  Connecticut from 2014 to 2016, and in New Haven from 2016 to present. He was unanimously confirmed by both the Connecticut House of Representatives and Senate.
  - In 2020, Judge Williams co-chaired a task force that examined how courts in Connecticuts could make juries more racially and economically diverse. The task force issued a series of recommendations to make juries more equitable, including allowing felons released from prison and non-citizens to serve on juries. The measures were adopted and passed by the Connecticut General Assembly.
  - Judge Williams serves on the New England Regional Judicial Opioid Initiative, which works to develop a multi-state approach to tackling the opioid epidemic in New England, with an emphasis on the judiciary.
- Judge Williams served as an Assistant Public Defender for the State of Connecticut Division of Public Defender Services from 2003 to 2014. If confirmed, Judge Williams would be the first Black public defender to ever serve in the District of Connecticut, and the first public defender (along with fellow nominee Sarah Merriam) since 1964.
- Judge Williams earned his J.D. from the University of Connecticut Law School in 2002 and his B.A. from the University of Connecticut in 1998.