



JUDGE PATRICIA PEREZ FRESARD

State Bar of Michigan ADR Section
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Patricia Perez Fresard has served as the Chief Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan since January 1, 2023, and is the first Hispanic Chief Judge in the Court's history. She has been a judge for 25 years, and was first elected to the Court in 1999. There, Judge Fresard tried more than 500 cases and was instrumental in establishing Wayne County's Drug Court.

In September 2012, Judge Fresard transferred to the Court's Civil Division, and was named the division's Presiding Judge in 2016. Three years later, she was appointed as Chief Judge Pro Tem. Before her time as a judge, she spent numerous years as a prosecutor. Judge Fresard is a cum laude graduate and holds a J.D. from the Detroit College of Law, now known as Michigan State University College of Law.

Judge Fresard's mantra is "joining forces to serve better together," which she does in both her professional and personal life. Judge Fresard remains active in the Wayne County community, sitting on the board of directors for La Sed, a non-profit agency serving Hispanics and residents of Southwest Detroit, the Detroit Bar Association Foundation, and the Mediation Tribunal Association. She is also a member of Wayne County's Gun Violence Reduction Task Force. In addition, Judge Fresard has allocated time, talent, and resources to the crafting of a Diversity and Inclusion Plan for the Third Judicial Circuit.

A native of Ecuador who came to Detroit with her family at the age of three, Judge Fresard enjoys painting and spending time with her husband, three children, and three grandchildren outside of work.

