

Richard Bender Abell, JD



Title: Federal Judiciary (Retired) **Industry:** Law and Legal Services **Date of Birth:** 12/02/1943 **Place of Birth:** Philadelphia **State/Country of Origin:** PA/USA **Parents:** Lon Edward Welch Abell, Jr.; Charlotte Amelia (Bender) Abell **Marital Status:** Married **Spouse Name:** Lucia del Carmen Lombana-Cadavid (12/2/1968) **Children:** David; Christian; Rachel **Education:** JD, The George Washington University (1974); BA in International Affairs, The George Washington University (1966) **Career:** Policy Board, American Civil Rights Union (2010-2013); Special Trial Judge/Special Master, United States Court Federal Claims, Washington, DC (1991-2010); Assistant Attorney General, United States Department of Justice (1986-1990); Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office Justice Programs, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC (1983-1986); Director, Office of Program Development, Peace Corps, Washington, DC (1981-1983); Staff Member, United States Senator Richard Schweiker, United States Senate, Washington, DC (1979-1980); Deputy Sheriff, Chester County, Pennsylvania (1976-1978); Associate, Reilly & Fogwell, West Chester, PA (1974-1980); Assistant District Attorney, Chester County, Pennsylvania (1974-1979); Volunteer, Peace Corps, Colombia (1967-1969) **Career Related:** YR Alumni Network, Inc. (2009-Present); Member, National Drug Policy Board, Enforcement Coordinating Group, The White House, Washington, DC (1988-1989); Member, Coordinating Group, Drug Abuse Prevention and Health, The White House, Washington, DC (1988-1989); Co-Chairman, Advisory Committee, National Center for State and Local Law Enforcement Training (1987-1990); Vice Chairman, Research and Development Review Board, United States Department of Justice (1987-1989); Chairman, National Crime Prevention Council (1986-1990); Member, Advisory Board, National Institute of Corrections (1986-1990); Board of Directors, Federal Prison Industries, Inc. (Now UNICOR) (1985-1991); Adjunct Faculty, West Chester University (1976); Adjunct Faculty, Delaware Law School, Widener University, Wilmington, DE (1975-1977) **Civic:** Commissioner, President's Commission on Agricultural Workers (1988-1993); President's Task Force on Adoption (1987-1988); Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (1986-1990); Board of Directors, Young Americans for Freedom, Young America's Foundation (1979-1983); Chairman, Young Republicans National Federation, Washington, DC (1979-1981); Executive Committee, Republican National Committee (1979-1981) **Military Service:** U.S. Army (1969-1971) **Creative Works:** Editor, "Sojourns of a Patriot: Field and Prison Papers of An Unreconstructed Confederate" (1998); Author, "Peter Smith of Westmoreland County, Virginia (Died 1741) and Some Descendants" (1996) **Awards:** Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal, United Daughters of the Confederacy (2000); Decorated, Purple Heart, U.S. Army (1970); Recipient, Commendation Medal for Heroism, US. Army (1970); Air Medal, U.S. Army (1970); Combat Infantryman's Badge, U.S. Army (1970) **Membership:** Knight, Most Venerable Order of Hospital St. John, Jerusalem (Now The Order of St. John); Order of the Indian Wars of the United States; General Society of Colonial Wars; Society of the Cincinnati; General Society Sons of the Revolution; Aztec Club of 1847; General Society of the War of 1812 **Bar Admissions:** Pennsylvania (1974) **Marquis Who's Who Honors:** Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award (2018); Distinguished Humanitarian Award (2018) **To what do you attribute your success:** The Honorable Abell attributes his success to his faith in God. **Where will you be in five years:** The Honorable Abell plans on doing some complex writing when he has the opportunity. **Avocations:** History; Genealogy; Reading; Hunting **Religion:** Anglican Catholic **Thoughts on Life:** More than a half-century ago, the Honorable Abell was a member of the Boy Scouts of America. What was taught to him then has stayed with him. Their words of wisdom have always rung in his ears – Pro Deo et Patria – "For God and Country." There can be no higher definition of our national purpose. Honorable Abell has tried to let this phrase guide him during these past six decades since being a Boy Scout – both parts – for God and for Country. They go together. Our nation has been blessed, Honorable Abell says, by Divine Providence because of faith. When we lose that faith, Honorable Abell believes that we will lose our country and the principles that have made us the great nation that we still are. Further, it is not happenstance that "God" is placed before "Country" in this phrase. Additionally, it behooves him to mention that he has also always been guided by the words of one of our truly greatest men, Robert E. Lee: "Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more, you should never wish to do less."