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CAVALIER JOHNSON
COMMON COUNCIL PRESIDENT
ALDERMAN, 2ND DISTRICT

Statement on the passing of Shirley Abrahamson

**Common Council President Cavalier Johnson
December 21, 2020**

I was saddened to hear the news that former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Shirley Abrahamson passed away over the weekend. My thoughts are with her friends and family during this difficult time.

Chief Justice Abrahamson had such a profound impact on the legal profession across the state, and there is no doubt her loss will be felt across that community. She broke many barriers in Wisconsin as a pillar of the highest court, including becoming the first woman to serve on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, becoming the first female chief justice (a position she held for a record 19 years), and eventually she became the longest-serving member in the court's history.

Her legacy stretches beyond the historic achievements, as Chief Justice Abrahamson served as a role model, mentor and thought leader for decades. She was well known for making the state Supreme Court more accessible and transparent, while also fighting for the rights of the people and demonstrating an unmatched work ethic.

Chief Justice Abrahamson made Wisconsin a better place, and we will miss her greatly.

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