



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES COUNTERBALANCE

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## AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION: KNOWING THE CAUSES AND SIGNS OF JUDICIAL DISTRESS, AND GETTING HELP BEFORE IMPAIRMENT LEADS TO AN ETHICS COMPLAINT by Judge Simone Marsteller

A state court of appeals judge is stopped and arrested for driving while intoxicated; when stopped, she pleads with officers to let her go because an arrest will ruin her career. A trial judge instigates and engages in a physical altercation with a defense attorney in the middle of a criminal proceeding; the judge is placed on leave; he agrees to seek anger management counseling and treatment. A federal judge is arrested and charged with domestic violence; he enters a treatment program pending further criminal proceedings. A county court judge comes to work one morning obviously inebriated; her staff try to keep her from taking the bench; the chief judge has to intervene. While on leave because of the incident, and after failing to complete a course of inpatient treatment, she is arrested for DUI. Notably, she is one of three judges in the jurisdiction who, within a six-month period, have gotten in trouble for drunk driving. A judge is arrested for heroin and illegal weapons possession; he enters a drug addiction treatment program after being released on \$10,000 bail. A judge with bipolar disorder is found not guilty of misdemeanor battery by reason of insanity for shoving a sheriff's deputy during a manic episode. Two years later, she is removed from the bench because her unpredictable behavior places the public at risk; her mental health issues have been evident for 18 years. A judge is suspended for 30 days without pay for coming to work so intoxicated that she ended up hospitalized thereafter for three days.

All are true stories, and all made news headlines in the last 12 to 24 months. Similar situations involving judges whose stress, substance abuse or mental health issues overcome them are occurring with alarming frequency. And when they happen, the judges become subject to misconduct complaints and likely discipline. Their behavior, which signals an underlying addiction, mental illness or troubled emotional state, may involve actions that violate the Code of Judicial Conduct.<sup>1</sup> In addition, the failure to undergo and complete treatment often serves as an aggravating factor, increasing the severity of the discipline imposed.<sup>2</sup> Besides the judge who was removed from the bench because of her longstanding bipolar disorder and failure to carry through with treatment,<sup>3</sup> two others mentioned above are under formal ethics charges, in addition to their pending criminal charges.<sup>4</sup>

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## MISSION

NAWJ's mission is to promote the judicial role of protecting the rights of individuals under the rule of law through strong, committed, diverse judicial leadership; fairness and equality in the courts; and equal access to justice.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### Dear Members,

On the heels of an inspiring fall conference and our Immediate Past President's excellent and visionary leadership, NAWJ welcomes the coming year and the renewed energy that surfaced in January – a month named after the Roman god Janus, the god of new beginnings and transitions. It is derived from the Latin word 'ianua' which means 'the door.' We took a few moments at the close of 2014 to pause, to reflect, to take stock, and then to focus on what tasks lie ahead to further our mission-driven objectives, and in so doing identify the tool kits we have assembled and the strategies in place to walk

through those doors. We are privileged in this process to have an exceptional Board of Directors, guided by a stellar Executive Committee, and a seasoned and dedicated staff.

It is an exciting time. Committees are in place and have already begun meeting, the fourteen districts through the leadership of their directors and the recently instituted state chairs have events and projects planned, and our valued Resource Board members are promoting our mission's goals and participating as program panelists. A robust Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conference set for April in Chicago, a city which resonates with the kinetic energy of the times, is well underway, and the planning for the Annual Conference in Salt Lake City in October, and the 2016 IAWJ Biennial Conference in Washington, D.C., is in full gear.

From a professional perspective, I am aware on a daily basis of the privilege that has been bestowed upon each of us to serve the public in our judicial capacity, and of the responsibility with which we have been entrusted. As members of NAWJ, we embrace a broader scope of responsibility that goes beyond presiding over the cases and addressing the parties before us in court. We provide programming and cutting-edge education to further our goals: protecting the rights of our most vulnerable populations through our collective voice and action, striving to ensure equal and meaningful access to justice for all, and mentoring on many levels the generations of young women who will assume leadership roles.

NAWJ has much of which to be proud. Alongside our signature project, Color of Justice, a program designed to expose and engage girls, particularly in impoverished areas, to the possibility of becoming members and leaders in our legal profession, we have added the FAIRGirls and emerging Diamond in the Rough projects, both are programs that address the needs of at-risk and often exploited youths. Human Trafficking, a national and global issue affecting an array of vulnerable populations, and now a stand-alone committee alongside Immigration, continues as a mainstay at NAWJ conferences. The Informed Voters-Fair Judges Project, under the umbrella of the Judicial Independence Committee, presses forward with educating the voting electorate as to the importance of informed decision making to ensure fair and impartial courts.

At the Chicago Midyear, prominent Resource Board members and judges will again present innovative and strategic approaches to permeating the composition of our legal bodies, which have appointment power, to broaden the efforts to increase the number of women and minorities in law related and judicial leadership positions. Exploration of issues through multimedia and performance presentations, such as examining bias and intolerance through the compelling one act play, *Anne and Emmett*, is a significant endeavor NAWJ will again present in Chicago. Vital is the ongoing work of the Women in Prison Committee, the Website Improvement task force, and the work of the Success Inside and Out, Storybook, MentorJet and History Book projects, together with the committed work of several dozen other committees.

And beyond these endeavors we undertake as NAWJ members, and in our own legally-related activities, I am proud to identify with an organization of women leaders of diverse backgrounds from across the country who continuously demonstrate how deeply they



### Dear NAWJ Members and Friends,

NAWJ has entered 2015 on the wave of tremendous momentum generated in 2014 under the steadfast leadership of Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby. Due to successful programs and conferences, identifying new corporate and organizational partners, and strengthening our relationship with the three branches of government, NAWJ is a stronger, more energetic, and vibrant organization.

Under the direction of our new President, Judge Julie E. Frantz, NAWJ has plans to again set new records with pioneering programming and events

that will excite our members and partners and bring us national attention. In a few short weeks, NAWJ will “kick off” its 2015 events with the Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conference in Chicago. This year’s conference theme is entitled, *“Voices of Justice: Keeping the Promise of the Rule of Law Through Enhancing Judicial Diversity and Leadership”*.

This Midyear Conference will again be action-packed, head-lined by Keynote Speaker Cheryl Brown Henderson, Founding President of the Brown Foundation and daughter of the late Rev. Oliver L. Brown, who along with twelve other parents, filed suit on behalf of their children against their local Board of Education in the fall of 1950. We are also excited to announce that, due to overwhelming demand, NAWJ is bringing another presentation of Janet Langhart-Cohen’s play, *Anne & Emmett*, to Chicago! Don’t miss out on your chance to see this timely and relevant play about Anne Frank and Emmett Till, and their struggles with racism and intolerance.

In addition, plans for the NAWJ Annual Conference, *With Liberty Justice for All*, scheduled in Salt Lake City, October 7-11, are well underway and promises to be packed fully with important and cutting-edge programs.

2015 promises to be yet another banner year for NAWJ. I invite all of our members and friends to once again join us as we continue moving forward. Take part in our programs, reconnect with your friends, come to our exciting conferences and events, and spread the message of NAWJ.

Warmly,

NAWJ Executive Director

☐ Continued from Page 2

care about their communities every time they step off the bench, remove their black robes, and venture into the streets to work side by side with our neighbors in need who often struggle to have their voices heard. It is truly a shared effort to keep the promise of making our communities a better place for all to live.

Consistent with our well-established goals, let resonate within each of us the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., whose birth we honored last month, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere,” as we respond to the NAWJ call for action in this coming year, daily exercise our judgment, and apply the rule of law in furtherance of justice and equality in our courts.

Most Sincerely,

NAWJ President



### NAWJ 2015 MIDYEAR MEETING AND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

April 23-25, 2015

Palmer House Hilton  
Chicago, Illinois

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Judge Julie E. Frantz

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Human Trafficking:  
What Judges Can Do  
Informed Voters-Fair Judges  
Women in the Legal Profession  
Justice Through Diverse  
Leadership  
Anne & Emmett Playlet  
Architectural Riverboat Tour  
DineArounds

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Visit [www.nawj.org/mid-year\\_2015.asp](http://www.nawj.org/mid-year_2015.asp)



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These unfortunate stories underscore two things: Judges are vulnerable to personal and occupational stressors that can impair judgment and performance. And an unchecked or untreated impairment can quickly become public and jeopardize a judge's career.

Could these judges have been helped earlier, averting the public revelation that they were in crisis? Are there structures in place, similar to employee assistance programs, or EAPs, that can provide early, confidential assistance to troubled or impaired judges?

Because of the potentially devastating professional consequences of an unaddressed emotional, mental or addiction problem, it is important for all judges—seasoned jurists, as well as those new to the bench—to be aware of the sources of judicial stress and impairment, and to know where to get help for oneself or for a colleague. This article presents an overview of the major causes of what some experts call “judicial distress,” describes some common signs of distress, and reveals why judges often do not seek, or are not referred to, early counseling and treatment. The article further surveys currently existing judicial assistance programs and other resources available to help distressed judges.

## Judicial Distress—Major Causes and Signs

Judicial distress is not simply the stress a judge might experience on any given day from having to manage an unreasonably large caseload or deal with caustic attorneys and angry litigants. Rather, judicial distress encompasses the full spectrum of physical and emotional or mental conditions that can affect a judge's ability to perform her job, including stress. It contemplates “[a]ny condition, problem, or situation that impairs a judge's ability to carry out his/her judicial functions or poses a challenge to the judge's physical or emotional stability[.]”<sup>5</sup>

## A. Major causes of judicial distress

### 1. The job

For judges, a primary cause of *distress* is the job—not only the stressfulness of the day-to-day responsibilities, but the weight of everything else that comes with being a judge.<sup>6</sup> To be sure, the nature of the work judges do is inherently stressful. Large dockets and caseloads require the average judge often to work late in the evenings and bring files home on the weekends, cutting into relaxation and family time. Judges who hear mostly or exclusively criminal, family law and juvenile dependency cases may suffer vicarious trauma, “which is the trauma suffered by health and justice system professionals who must listen to accounts and watch videos or pictures of traumatic situations such as abuse, rape, torture, and murder.”<sup>7</sup> No matter the docket, there is internal and external pressure to “be fair, impartial and make the right decision 100 percent of the time[.]”<sup>8</sup> Such pressure is even greater in high profile cases which draw media attention, and often, public criticism of the judge's decision to which she cannot respond.<sup>9</sup> Also contributing to job stress are conflicts with colleagues<sup>10</sup> and safety and security concerns.<sup>11</sup>

Being a judge is professionally and socially isolating, as well. The need to adhere to the Code of Judicial Conduct severely limits judges' ability to interact socially outside of the courthouse. Not only are public speech and behavior restricted,<sup>12</sup> but “it is more the ‘appearance’ requirement that poses the biggest burden. [Judges] have to be vigilant and maintain an appropriate distance and demeanor at social and bar gatherings.”<sup>13</sup> Activity on social networking sites also may be problematic for the same reason, depending on a judge's governing jurisdiction.<sup>14</sup>

In addition, isolation occurs as a result of the higher status a judge attains upon being elected or appointed to the bench. Former colleagues and professional peers immediately start to treat the new judge differently, addressing her by her title instead of by her name, and the distancing trend does not appear to correct itself over time.<sup>15</sup> Consequently, the judge's social circle, within which she feels free to “be herself,” shrinks considerably. Arguably more isolated are unmarried judges who simply are unable to socialize as they once did—whether because of public scrutiny, or because dating opportunities are fewer. Indeed, “[t]he single woman on the bench is often an object of outright curiosity and chatter. Who does she date? If she doesn't date, is she gay or are there other issues?”<sup>16</sup>

### 2. Prolonged job stress; occupational burnout

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) defines job stress as “the harmful physical and emotional responses that occur when the requirements of the job do not match the capabilities, resources, or needs of the worker.” While the occasional stressful situation is manageable, prolonged stress can lead to significant physical and mental health problems. As NIOSH explains:

Stress sets off an alarm in the brain, which responds by preparing the body for defensive action. The nervous system is aroused and hormones are released to sharpen the senses, quicken the pulse,

deepen respiration, and tense the muscles. This response (sometimes called the fight or flight response) is important because it helps us defend against threatening situations. The response is preprogrammed biologically. Everyone responds in much the same way, regardless of whether the stressful situation is at work or home.

Short-lived or infrequent episodes of stress pose little risk. But when stressful situations go unresolved, the body is kept in a constant state of activation, which increases the rate of wear and tear to biological systems. Ultimately, fatigue or damage results, and the ability of the body to repair and defend itself can become seriously compromised. As a result, the risk of injury or disease escalates.<sup>18</sup>

Prolonged unresolved stress increases one's risk of developing cardiovascular disease, musculoskeletal disorders, and, of course, mental health problems such as depression and burnout.<sup>19</sup>

Judges are particularly susceptible to burnout because of the nature of the work and judicial life, as described previously. A 2009 study of a group of judges in a "medium-size city in the western United States" found three main contributors to judicial job stress and burnout: overload of workload and job responsibilities; workplace conflict (particularly conflict that is inherent in the adversarial process); and perceptions of occupational inequity.<sup>20</sup> As to the third contributor, the study's authors make a noteworthy observation relative to new judges and their vulnerability to burnout:

Notions of occupational inequity may be a common sentiment among judges as the job requires long hours and intense emotional investment with relatively small rewards. Prospective judges certainly play an active role in seeking judicial appointment or election and should thus be aware of the long hours, heavy workloads, and important responsibilities that the position demands. However, it is plausible that some judges do not fully understand the nature of the position before entering it.<sup>21</sup>

### 3. *Marital, family and financial issues*

These categories of problems are neither unusual nor unknown to most people. Conflicts with a spouse, separation or divorce, dealing with sick children, caring for aging parents, money problems—all are difficult and stressful for anyone facing them, but they generally are not insurmountable. What makes marital, family and financial problems potential sources of judicial distress are the added pressures of being a public official always under scrutiny,<sup>22</sup> serving as a role model in and out of the courtroom, and having a job that requires maintaining a calm, controlled demeanor at all times.<sup>23</sup> "Because of the weight of public expectation, judges generally feel that they should be perfect."<sup>24</sup> Trying to live up to such an impossible ideal inevitably leads to distress. Add to that the isolation factor, and the risk of judicial distress is even greater.

### 4. *Emotional and mental health issues; substance abuse and addiction*

With the exception of conditions like bipolar disorder that do not appear to be caused by conditions external to the individual, emotional and mental health issues and substance abuse and addiction do tend to flow from external pressures, including those discussed above, and are often related. Thus, for example, social isolation or job burnout can cause depression, which, in turn can lead to alcohol overuse and dependence—the most common category of addictions.<sup>25</sup> Indeed, addiction "is often referred to as a 'dual-diagnostic' area because concomitant psychological and medical conditions are usually involved."<sup>26</sup> But no matter the condition or the cause, untreated mental health and substance abuse issues invariably manifest themselves in decreased productivity, changes in temperament, erratic behavior, and the like.<sup>27</sup>

#### *B. Signs of judicial distress*

It is apparent that many of the causes of judicial distress are related, if not intertwined, and several can be occurring at once, seriously affecting a judge's ability to competently do her job. It makes sense, then, that changes in a judge's physical condition or behavior on and off the job can signal one or more of the causes of judicial distress. Following are just *some* signs that a judge may be experiencing some of those causes and may need to seek (or be encouraged to seek) help:

- Short temper
- Mental and/or physical exhaustion
- Lack of sleep/loss of appetite
- Inability to concentrate
- Lack of interest or concern
- Depressed mood
- Irritability/hostility and impatience
- Mood swings
- Inability to make decisions
- Reduced productivity
- Tardiness in getting work done
- Boredom with/at work
- Job dissatisfaction
- Increased absences from work
- Onset of anxiety/panic attacks
- Inappropriate behavior on or off the bench
- Too much alcohol consumption at professional functions

#### **Judicial Distress—Hindrances to Seeking and Getting Help Early**

Three significant barriers often prevent a judge in distress—or make it difficult for her—to get needed help: denial, public expectations, and confidentiality concerns.

The first step to recovery is admitting you have a problem. Denial is perhaps the number one hindrance to judges in distress getting the counseling or treatment they need before their impairment becomes grounds for a disciplinary complaint. Indeed, "[d]enial is the single most important reason why alcohol or substance abuse addicts do not seek help."<sup>28</sup> There is, of course, denial by the individual—



including outright denial that there is a problem, or minimizing the problem so that its effects seem less harmful.<sup>29</sup> For judges, “endorsed denial” is also a factor. Endorsed denial “is shared by the commanding figures in the person’s family, community, or work environment” and occurs when those people “deny or ignore the problem, because acknowledging it would require certain actions to be taken, which could create a crisis or difficult situation.”<sup>30</sup> Thus, a judge’s staff or colleagues avoid dealing directly with a troublesome issue, and will look the other way, or help the distressed judge contain the problem, until it gets out of hand.<sup>31</sup>

The pressure of the public’s expectations also can prevent a judge from getting help, or even acknowledging she has a problem.<sup>32</sup> As noted earlier, judges are regularly in the public eye, under scrutiny, and lawyers and citizens alike expect judges to present an image of wholeness and infallibility. This pressure to “keep it together” can cause a judge in distress to try to handle the problem without outside assistance, or even fail to recognize the signs she may have a problem.

In addition, despite the availability of lawyers assistance programs in every state, and the increasing availability of judicial assistance programs, judges in distress, who acknowledge they need counseling or treatment and are willing to undergo it, hesitate to take advantage of such programs because of confidentiality concerns.<sup>33</sup> They avoid the bar programs and seek help privately, likely for fear the fact they are going to counseling will become known in the legal community.<sup>34</sup> Interestingly, confidentiality concerns also arise from the nature of the needed treatment or therapy. Effective counseling modes like group psychotherapy and group marital counseling are simply unavailable to judges because they cannot be sure their membership in such groups will remain confidential.<sup>35</sup>

### WHERE TO GO IF YOU NEED (OR A COLLEAGUE NEEDS) HELP

#### A. For state court judges

A number of states have developed assistance programs exclusively for judges and specifically designed with their concerns in mind. Several of them use judges as peer volunteers—a concept the ABA’s Judicial Assistance Initiative advocates in its comprehensive *Judges Helping Judges* handbook for setting up judicial assistance programs. Some of the more robust programs include:

- **Illinois Lawyers’ Assistance Program**—Offers a confidential program specifically for judges. The program promotes action and intervention by judicial colleagues with the help of trained LAP volunteers who are judges and who understand the issues particular to judicial officers. State-wide toll-free number (800) LAP-1233 (527-1233). Website: [www.illinoislap.org/judicial-assistance](http://www.illinoislap.org/judicial-assistance)

- **New Jersey Judges’ Assistance Program**—The program’s motto is: Never again will a Judge have to say, “there was nowhere to turn.” Assuring judges “utmost confidentiality,” New Jersey’s JAP helps with alcohol, drug and gambling addictions, depression, marital and family difficulties, stress and burnout, among other issues. Call toll-free (877) NJ-JUDGE (655-8343). Website: [www.judgesassistance.org](http://www.judgesassistance.org)

- **New Mexico Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program**—Provides confidential services and trained volunteer judges to provide peer support to judges suffering depression or battling alcohol or drugs. The program also offers judges and their family members assessments and counseling referrals for marital issues, chronic stress, eating disorders, among other issues. Judges have a dedicated 24-hour hotline. Call toll-free (888) 502-1289. Website: [www.nmbar.org/JLAP/JudicialAssistance.html](http://www.nmbar.org/JLAP/JudicialAssistance.html)

- **New York State Bar Association Judges’ Assistance Program**—Provides confidential assistance to judges dealing with alcoholism, prescription and other drug abuse, stress and depression; also provides collateral services to family members. Call toll-free (800) 255-0569. Online brochure: <http://www.nysba.org/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=28223>

- **Oregon Attorney Assistance Program**—Features a “Volunteer Network of Assisting Judges” who either connect callers with appropriate resources or make the call for them. The judge-centric program was created after results of a survey sent to all Oregon judges reflected a need for a confidential service using colleagues and trained professionals to provide assistance for stress, burnout, depression, anxiety, retirement, and compulsive behavior. Call (503) 226-7150 (a dedicated phone number for judges). Website: [www.oaap.org/2011/Judges.aspx](http://www.oaap.org/2011/Judges.aspx)

- **Pennsylvania Judges Concerned for Judges**—A confidential service offering help to judges with anxiety, bipolar, alcohol and drugs, grief, gambling, eating disorders, and other emotional problems. The program also provides peer support and self-assessment tools and guides. Judges staff the confidential hotline. Call toll-free (888) 999-9706. Website: [www.jcjp.org](http://www.jcjp.org)

- **Washington State Bar Association Judicial Assistance Services (JAS) Program**—An exclusive program for judges. JAS offers confidential assistance with mental, emotional, drug, alcohol, family, health and other issues; services include assessment, referral, short-term or long-term counseling, follow-up and training. Call the JAS at (206) 727-8268. Online brochure: [www.courts.wa.gov/judicialfamily/judicialassistancebrochure.pdf](http://www.courts.wa.gov/judicialfamily/judicialassistancebrochure.pdf)

All states have Lawyer Assistance Programs (LAP) that serve lawyers and judges alike. Apparently sensitive to some of the reason for judges’ reluctance to seek help from LAPs, a few programs offer judges dedicated hotlines manned by fellow judges. For example:





• **Indiana Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program** has a toll-free peer-to-peer hotline for judges: (800) 219-6474. Website: <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/ijlap/>

• **Minnesota Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers Judges Helpline** is a confidential phone line assisting judges with “any issue that is stressful.” Call toll-free (877) 6JUDGES (658-3437) Website: <http://www.mncl.org/resources/judges/judges-resources/>

• **Texas Lawyers’ Assistance Program** operates the ABA’s National Hotline for Judges Helping Judges: (800) 219-6474. Website: <http://www.texasbar.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Judges1&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=15127>

Judges in states without judicial assistance programs should take advantage of, or refer colleagues in distress to, their state’s LAP. For a one-stop directory of all state LAPs, visit the ABA’s Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs (CoLAP) website at <http://apps.americanbar.org/legal-services/colap/colapdirectory.html>.

#### B. For federal judges

Not surprisingly, there is no system-wide intervention program or assistance initiative for federal judges. Unfortunately, it appears only the Ninth Circuit provides an avenue for judges in distress to seek and obtain counseling or treatment. Around 2000, based on recommendations from its Judicial Disability Task Force, the Ninth Circuit established the Private Assistance Line Service—a confidential referral resource that operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, serving judges seeking assistance for themselves or a family, family or staff members concerned for a judge’s wellbeing, and judges who have concerns about colleagues.<sup>37</sup>

Elsewhere in the federal system, unless judicial impairment issues give rise to conduct serious enough to warrant a formal complaint that then goes through the investigatory and disciplinary process provided for in the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act of 1980 (“Act”)<sup>38</sup> and the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings promulgated by the Judicial Conference of the United States, such problems are handled informally.<sup>39</sup> Generally, the informal process is initiated by the chief judge of the circuit or district; but the process can be peer-driven, as well.<sup>40</sup> Notably, the informal resolution process was contemplated by Congress when it passed the Act, and is the preferred mechanism for dealing with a wide range of conduct issues among the federal judiciary, including substance abuse.<sup>41</sup>

#### C. For all judges

As previously mentioned, the ABA, as part of its CoLAP Judicial Assistance Initiative, established and sponsors a national toll-free *Judges Helping Judges* helpline (800-219-6474). The helpline puts judges needing help for substance abuse, mental health and other issues in touch with peers who either are in recovery or who have completed treatment. Also born of the CoLAP initiative is the *Judges Helping Judges* handbook, which is a comprehensive reference for judges who have impairment issues and for jurisdictions interested in establishing their own judicial assistance programs. The handbook is available to ABA members and non-members for purchase and download from the CoLAP website at <http://apps.americanbar.org/legal-services/colap/judicialassistinitiative.html>.

Another useful resource is the Judicial Family Institute (JFI). A subcommittee of the Conference of Chief Justices, JFI’s goals include providing tools to judges and their families for managing the stresses of the job and public life. JFI makes available on its website ([www.judicialfamilyinstitute.org](http://www.judicialfamilyinstitute.org)) many articles and other materials giving invaluable information about judicial life, the stressors one encounters as part of the job, and how to cope with or get help with the challenges that come with the territory.

Finally, the various judicial assistance program and LAP websites provide an abundance of resources, including self-assessment tools, to educate judges, family members and staff about judicial distress and impairment. And any NAWJ member who just needs a caring, objective colleague to talk to may contact any of the judges on the New Judges Committee; see the list of committee members at the end of this article.

*“In my ten years as a trained Peer Counselor for the Washington State judiciary, I have been privileged to assist judges facing challenges ranging from isolation to decision fatigue to substance abuse and Post-Traumatic Stress. Our annual training prepares Peer Counselors to assist through personal interaction and referral to professionals providing individual therapy. The Washington model of ‘judges helping judges’ creates an atmosphere of trust and safety, encouraging those who are called upon daily to resolve the issues of those before them to address their own issues without jeopardizing their careers. The process of providing compassionate confidential assistance has benefitted me, as well, in achieving a healthy work/life balance.”*

Hon. Susan J. Woodard  
Yakima Municipal Court Judge  
Co-chair, Judicial Assistance Services Program

#### CONCLUSION

Being a judge and coping with all that comes with the job can be stressful and, indeed, overwhelming. Add to that the challenges and pressures of life in today’s society, and it’s no wonder some judges find themselves in situations like those recounted at the beginning of this article. But as judges, we also are solely responsible for preserving public confidence

in our court system. As such, it is of utmost importance that we learn to recognize the signs of judicial distress—not only in ourselves, but in our colleagues, as well—and take advantage of the resources available for confidential counseling and treatment before a manageable problem becomes a publicly-known, career-damaging ethics complaint.



**Simone Marstiller** (left) is a judge on the First District Court of Appeal in Tallahassee, Florida.

This article is submitted on behalf of the NAWJ's New Judges Committee: Jamoa Moberly (CA) (chair); Beverly Cutler (AK); Bernadette D'Souza (LA); Ellar Duff (IL); Jennifer Gee (Fed.) (CA); Pammela Lattier (LA); Antoinette Leoney (MA); Simone Marstiller (FL); Ann Moorman (CA);

Wendy Morton (AZ); Charmaine Pemberton (Trinidad and Tobago); Ioana Petrou (CA); Sheva Sims (LA); Theresa Timlin (Fed.) (NJ); Elizabeth Yablon (NY); Daria Zane (DC). The New Judges Committee includes new and seasoned judges; its mission is to guide NAWJ in addressing the needs of new judges in all sectors of the judiciary.

## ENDNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Cynthia Gray, *The Worst-Kept Secret in the Courthouse*, 90 *Judicature* 30 (Jul.-Aug. 2006).

<sup>2</sup>*Id.* at 31.

<sup>3</sup>*In re Brim*, No. 13-CC-1 (Illinois Courts Commission May 9, 2014).

<sup>4</sup>*Inquiry Concerning a Judge*, Nos. 13-633, 14-151, 14-187, *Re: Giselle Pollack*, No. SC14-985 (Fla. 2014); *Inquiry Concerning a Judge*, No. 14-255, *Re: John C. Murphy*, No. SC14-1582 (Fla. 2014).

<sup>5</sup>Mirelsa Modestti Gonzalez, Ph.D., *Judges in Distress: When to Seek Help*, available at <http://www.judicialfamilyinstitute.org/judges-in-distress.html>, last accessed Sept. 30, 2014.

<sup>6</sup>Hon. Thomas R. "Skip" Frierson, II, *Stress Resilience for the Judicial Family*, available at <http://www.judicialfamilyinstitute.org/pdf/stress-resilience.pdf> [sic], last accessed Sept. 30, 2014.

<sup>7</sup>Gonzalez, *supra* n.5.

<sup>8</sup>Hon. Robert L. "Butch" Childers, *Even Judges Get the Blues*, Highlights (Summer 2009), at 3.

<sup>9</sup>Gonzalez, *supra* n.5; Frierson, *supra* n.6; Isaiah M. Zimmerman, Ph.D., *Helping Judges in Distress*, 90 *Judicature* 13 (Jul.-Aug. 2006).

<sup>10</sup>Zimmerman, *supra* n.9, at 12.

<sup>11</sup>Frierson, *supra* n.6.

<sup>12</sup>Zimmerman, *supra* n.9, at 13.

<sup>13</sup>Isaiah M. Zimmerman, Ph.D., *Isolation in the Judicial Career*, 36 *Ct. Rev.* 4 (2000).

<sup>14</sup>*See, e.g.*, Fla. JEAC Op. 2009-20 (Nov. 17, 2009) (opining that "friending" or accepting "friend requests" on Facebook from lawyers who "may appear before the judge" violates Canon 2B because such actions reasonably convey to others that the lawyer is in a "special position" to influence the judge); *see also* Brian Hull, *Why Can't We Be "Friends?" A Call for a Less Stringent Policy for Judges Using Online Social Networking*, 63 *Hastings L. J.* 595, Note (2012) (comparing the prohibitive approach taken by Florida, Oklahoma and California, with the more permissive stance of New York, Kentucky, Indiana, Wisconsin and Ohio).

<sup>15</sup>Zimmerman, *supra* n.11, at 5.

<sup>16</sup>Zimmerman, *supra* n.9, at 12.

<sup>17</sup>National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Publication 99-101 (1999), available at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/99-101/default.html>, last accessed Sept. 30, 2014.

<sup>18</sup>*Id.*

<sup>19</sup>*Id.*

<sup>20</sup>Jared Chamberlin, M.A., Monica K. Miller, J.D., Ph.D., *Evidence of Secondary Traumatic Stress, Safety Concerns, and Burnout Among A Homogeneous Group of Judges in a Single Jurisdiction*, 37 *J. Am. Acad. Psychiatry Law* 214, 215, 219 (2009).

<sup>21</sup>*Id.* at 217.

<sup>22</sup>"In smaller and rural communities, judges have little or no privacy outside of their homes. A judge in a one-judge court is especially vulnerable. In larger or metropolitan jurisdictions, the media are interested in publicizing what may be occurring in the life of the judge and the court. In a divorce proceeding, judges . . . tend to appease the spouse in contested custody and financial matters to minimize public scrutiny. These are severe stresses on the equanimity and working ability of the judge and his or her staff." Zimmerman, *supra* n.9, at 12.

<sup>23</sup>Gonzalez, *supra* n.5.

<sup>24</sup>Childers, *supra* n.8.

<sup>25</sup>Zimmerman, *supra* n.9, at 11.

<sup>26</sup>*Id.*

<sup>27</sup>*Id.*

<sup>28</sup>Mirelsa Modestti Gonzalez, Ph.D., *The Many Faces of Denial*, Highlights (Summer 2009), at 5.

<sup>29</sup>*Id.*

<sup>30</sup>*Id.*

<sup>31</sup>*Id.*; Childers, *supra* n.8, at 3.

<sup>32</sup>Childers, *supra* n.8 at 3.

<sup>33</sup>Gonzalez, *supra* n.5.

<sup>34</sup>Zimmerman, *supra* n.9, at 10.

<sup>35</sup>*Id.* at 11.

<sup>36</sup>Because this article's focus is on pre-disciplinary-complaint assistance programs for judges, entities like Kansas' Judges Assistance Committee and West Virginia's Judicial Committee on Assistance and Intervention, or programs like the Texas State Commission on Judicial Conduct Amicus Curiae program, which are part of or ancillary to the state's judicial disciplinary process, are not included here. However, that is not to diminish their importance in the legal profession's overall effort to give judges in distress every opportunity to obtain counseling and treatment and avoid disciplinary sanctions.

<sup>37</sup>*Implementation of the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act of 1980* (2006) ("Breyer Committee Report"), at 104-5, available at [http://www.fjc.gov/public/pdf.nsf/lookup/breyer06.pdf/\\$file/breyer06.pdf](http://www.fjc.gov/public/pdf.nsf/lookup/breyer06.pdf/$file/breyer06.pdf), last accessed Sept. 30, 2014.

<sup>38</sup>28 U.S.C. §§351-364.

<sup>39</sup>Breyer Committee Report, *supra* n. 37, at 100-1.

<sup>40</sup>*Id.* at 102-3.

<sup>41</sup>*Id.* at 100-1.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM NAWJ MEMBERS

"Reducing Judicial Stress Through Mentoring: A Mentoring Program Can Help Judges, Particularly New Judges, Deal with the Stress and Strain Inherent in Their Job". Hon. Celeste F. Bremer, Counterbalance (Winter, 2012).

*Judges Helping Judges*, Hon. Sarah Krauss, Nancy Stek, Hon. William Dressell, The Judicial Assistance Initiative, Resources & Education. ABA Commission on Lawyers Assistance Programs, 2010.



## THE DAUGHTER EFFECT

### HAVING DAUGHTERS MATTERS TO JUDGES

by Hon. Terry Fox, Colorado Court of Appeals, District 12 Director



The New York Times published an article earlier last month about a study indicating that judges with daughters are more likely to rule in favor of women's rights issues than those who do not have daughters. See Adam Liptak, *Another Factor Said to Sway Judges to Rule for Women's Rights: A Daughter*, N.Y. Times,<sup>1</sup> Jun. 16, 2014, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2014/06/17/study-judges-with-daughters-are-more-likely-to-rule-in-favor-of-women/> (last visited July 18, 2014) (NY Times). The study – Glynn, Adam, and Maya Sen, 2014, *Identifying Judicial Empathy: Does Having Daughters Cause Judges to Rule for Women's Issues?* American Journal of Political Science (copy at <http://j.mp/NzXAEG>) (Daughters Study) – reaches some interesting conclusions.

Before I comment on the study briefly, I include the abstract of the study here:

In this paper, we ask whether personal relationships can affect the way that judges decide cases. To do so, we leverage the natural experiment of a child's gender to identify the effect of having daughters on the votes of judges. Using new data on the family lives of U.S. Courts of Appeals judges, we find that, conditional on the number of children a judge has, judges with daughters consistently vote in a more feminist fashion on gender issues than judges who have only sons. This result survives a number of robustness tests and appears to be driven primarily by Republican judges. More broadly, this result demonstrates that personal experiences influence how judges make decisions, and it is the first paper to show that empathy may indeed be a component in how judges decide cases.

Maya Sen, a political scientist at the University of Rochester, and Adam Glynn, a Harvard government professor, conducted the study. The researchers claim to be startled by the results of their study. According to Sen and Glynn, the "daughter effect" is most pronounced among male judges appointed by Republican presidents.

This study is particularly significant because scholarly debate concerning the judicial decision-making process has most recently emphasized law and ideology as the factors that guide judicial decision-making. This study indicates that personal experiences matter. According to Professor Sen, "[t]hings like having daughters can actually fundamentally change how people view the world, and this, in turn, affects how they decide cases." See Liptak.

The study examined approximately 2,500 votes by 224 federal appellate judges to conclude that having at least one daughter corresponds to a 7% increase in the proportion of cases where the judge will vote pro-female. Having more than one daughter did not appear to change the result. But, among judges with only one child, having a daughter (as opposed to a son) was linked to a 16% increase in a pro-female vote.

The study offered several potential explanations for the observed judicial behavior. The authors hypothesize that judges might be motivated to shield their daughters from harm. Another hypothesis posits that a liberal daughter's political leanings might influence the judge's vote. There was no correlation that would lend support to the theory that judges act out of economic self-interest (e.g., to avoid having unemployed daughters). According to Professor Sen, the most likely explanation is that by having at least one daughter, judges learn about the challenges women face, like pay equity issues, university admission encounters, or child-rearing concerns and therefore are influenced by empathy.

Contact NAWJ at [lcousin@nawj.org](mailto:lcousin@nawj.org) to get a copy of the 18 page study *Identifying Judicial Empathy: Does Having Daughters Cause Judges to Rule for Women's Issues?* by Adam N. Glynn (Harvard University) and Maya Sen (University of Rochester).

<sup>1</sup>Similar articles have also appeared in the Washington Post (Gail Sullivan, *Study: Judges with Daughters are More Likely to Rule in Favor of Women*, *The Washington Post*, Jun. 17, 2014, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2014/06/17/study-judges-with-daughters-are-more-likely-to-rule-in-favor-of-women/>) and *Time Magazine* (Charlotte Alter, *Judges With Daughters More Likely to Rule in Favor of Women's Rights*, *Time*, Jun. 17, 2014, <http://time.com/2887374/judges-with-daughters-more-likely-to-rule-in-favor-of-womens-rights/>).



## IAWJ 13th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

May 26-29, 2016  
Washington, D.C.  
Omni Shoreham  
Hilton

Hosted by the  
**NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION  
OF WOMEN  
JUDGES**

*Celebrating the 25th  
Anniversary of IAWJ*

**Women Judges and  
the Rule of Law:  
Assessing the Past,  
Anticipating the Future**

**CONFERENCE CHAIRS**  
**Hon. Jane Spencer Craney**,  
Morgan Superior Court 3,  
Indiana

**Hon. Carolyn Engel Temin**,  
Court of Common Pleas,  
1st Judicial District of PA



## PROTECTING AND ADVANCING MEANINGFUL ACCESS TO JUSTICE, NAWJ CELEBRATES ITS 36TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CONTINUES TO WARM HEARTS FOR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS OLD AND NEW

After two years of inspiring planning and leadership, 2014 Annual Conference Chairs and San Diego County Superior Court Judges, Hon. Tamila E. Ipema and Hon. Margie G. Woods, joined near 500 judges, attorneys, educators, authors and members of the wider San Diego legal communities for one of NAWJ's most memorable annual conferences. Over the course of five days, Judges Ipema and Woods successfully and joyfully presided over informative and challenging programming, warm and inviting social events, and gave responsive support to NAWJ business and activities. For the members and friends who comprised a national and international gathering of the state, federal, tribal, administrative judges, none of this outstanding conference could have taken place without the generous time, energy and commitment of the conference planning committee. Chairs included: Hon. Anna Blackburne-Rigsby (President); Hon. Judith D. McConnell (Advisory); Hon. Susan P. Finlay, Hon. Randa M. Trapp (Education); Hon. Robert C. Longstreth (CLE); Hon. Cindy D. Davis (Finance); Jerrilyn Malana, Esq., India Jewel, Esq. (Friends); Hon. Patti C. Ratekin (Hospitality); Hon. Patricia Cowett (International Judges Mentor); Hon. Judith C. Chirlin (International Judges Scholarship); Hon. Yvonne E. Campos (Keynote Speakers); Hon. Keri G. Katz (Law School Liaison); Hon. Sharon Majors Lewis (New Judges/First-time Attendees Mentors); Hon. Katherine A. Bacal (Publications/PR/Logo); Hon. Theodore M. Weathers (Registration); Hon. Joan P. Weber (Security); Hon. Lorna A. Alksne (Social Events); Hon. Vallera J. Johnson, Hon. Ana España (Volunteers).

### OFF AND RUNNING

The Conference began on October 15, 2014 in the Westin Gaslamp Quarter Hotel in downtown San Diego. Attendees hit the ground running on a treasure of specially arranged tours, films and reception parties. Judge Sharon Majors Lewis welcomed new judges and first time conference attendees to the organization and the conference with a wonderful parade of greetings from NAWJ founding members who shared their love and commitment to NAWJ and its mission. The view from the highest floor in the beautiful, newly opened U.S. Courthouse offered no less an experience to the merry gathering. The equally beautiful and popular San Diego Law Library was the setting for getting to know the 55 international judges from 32 countries.

Earlier in the day, Commissioner Pennie K. McLaughlin and Judge Margie G. Woods led a tour of Las Colinas Detention Center for Women in nearby Santee, California; Magistrate Judge Jill Burkhardt and Judge Tamila E. Ipema stewarded an enthusiastic crew to the International Border; and Judge Robert Longstreth guided curious inquirers through Southwest Key's tour of a unaccompanied minors shelter in El Cajon. Equally stimulating were novel film screenings dedicated to showcasing the life of heroes who made significant marks in the advancement of women in society: 'ANITA' a film showcasing the legacy of Anita Hill's testimony in the Clarence Thomas hearings, and 'Justice is a Black Woman: the Life and Times of Constance Baker Motely, a documentary on the first black woman appointed to a federal court. Also on

screen during the conference was the Emmy award winning "Presumed Guilty," a depiction of the Mexican legal system through the trial of Antonio Zuniga.

At twilight, and in the open air of the new U.S. Courthouse's ground floor, the sounds of the Mariachi Estrellas de Chula Vista and the savory cuisine of San Diego capped a day that drew everyone together in satisfaction of seeing friends once again, and in anticipation of the days ahead.

### OPENING DAY

Its Thursday, October 16, and the flourish from the San Diego Sheriff's Color Guard, and the attendant flag ceremony and presentation of colors, did not dim the radiant excitement of NAWJ President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, Conference Chairs Judge Ipema and Woods, along with NAWJ Executive Director Marie Komisar, Mayor of San Diego Kevin Faulconer, and the Presiding Judge of San Diego County Superior Court, opening welcome to all for another historic occasion. Right after, attendees quickly fell into conference mode with the presentation of the NAWJ's *Historic Efforts, Changes, and Future Challenges for the "Violence Against Women Act"* panel that provided a behind the scenes look at NAWJ's work in securing passage of the legislative landmark Violence Against Women act, and the landmark gender bias studies that took place across the country. Keynote Luncheon Speaker Manal Omar (United States Institute of Peace) gave an enthralling speech highlighting gender equality advancements yet to take place in the Middle East.

Our annual conference is also an opportunity to recognize people who have made significant contributions to achieving NAWJ's mission. During the Luncheon NAWJ recognized Harriet Wesig, Esq. (LexisNexis) and NAWJ Resource Board Member with the Mattie Belle Davis Award; Hon. Elizabeth K. Lee (Superior Court of California, San Mateo County) with the Justice Vaino Spence Leadership Award; and Hon. Betty J. Williams (New York State Supreme Court, Kings County) with the Norma Wikler Excellence in Service Award.

Education session topic covered included: *Changing Families, Changing Times; Meaningful Access to Justice in Indian Country; Unaccompanied Immigrant Children; Access to Justice through Diverse Leadership: Appointments of Counsel to Boards, Commissions and Special Assignments; Of Babies, Bodies and Borders: Emerging Issues in International Surrogacy; The Forgotten Warriors: Female Veterans, Healthcare and the Courts; Immigration: Who "Belongs" and Who Doesn't?; and Access to Justice for Family Violence Survivors: Family Justice Centers and Other Innovative Practices.*

### FRIENDS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

The extraordinary contributions made to this year's conference were championed by Friends Committee Chairs lawyers Jerrilyn Malana and India Jewel. At the Friends Appreciation Luncheon held in the storied U.S. Grant Hotel, they gave a hearty thank you to the many sponsors and donors who both sat in the audience in recognition, and contributed financial support. Friends Chairs Jerrilyn Malana and India Jewel worked tirelessly to ensure that all those in attendance





left stimulated by the excellent programming and enriched by the total experience of interacting with peers from around the city, country, and globe. A list of donors may be found on pages 30 and 31.

There was cake! Over 20 friends and colleagues gathered onstage to celebrate the 90th Birthday of one of NAWJ's Founding Mothers, Justice Joan Dempsey Klein. Justice Klein, funny and feisty as ever, shared news of her impending retirement from the California bench, and graciously feigned surprise at the very large birthday cake that rolled out to greet her. She blew out all the candles. Only Janet Napolitano, former Homeland Security Secretary and President of the University of California, could follow such an august figure as Justice Klein, and Secretary Napolitano, the Luncheon's Keynote Speaker did so with a certain grounded, verve.

Here too, we recognized people who made contributions to achieving NAWJ's mission. During this Luncheon NAWJ recognized NAWJ Past President Judge Amy L. Nechtem (Massachusetts Juvenile Court) as the Justice Joan Dempsey Klein Honoree of the Year. Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project creator Justice Joan K. Irion also took the opportunity to award Project leaders a long awaited thank you for key contributions to the Project's achievements: Luke Aeschliman (Skipjack Post, LLC); Melinda Blake, Esq. (Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP); Annette Boyd Pitts (Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc.); Lisa Hall (Hall + Media Strategies, Inc.); Raiji J. Horstman, Esq., (Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP); Linda Leali, Esq.; Lisa Lowry, Esq. (Katten Muchin Roseman, LLP); Michael Schultz (Reignite Group); Jonathan Shapiro, Esq. (Kirkland & Ellis, LLP); Michelle Van Oppen, Esq. (Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP); Cory Weigle (Skipjack Post, LLC); and Anthony Xiques (Reignite Group).

Education session topics covered included: *Conversations between Professors Anita F. Hill and Charles G. Ogletree, Jr., Labor Trafficking, Global Women's Issues: Using the Rule of Law to Promote Women's Rights, The Language of Sexual Violence, Who Do You Believe and Why: The Science of Credibility, From Tragedy*

*to Triumph: How Two Men Turned the Horror of Murder into a Community Reconciliation, International Tea and Ethics, and Presumed Guilty: The Challenge of Justice in the Americas.*

The Lawyers Club of San Diego punctuated the day's end with a delightful Judicial Reception open to NAWJ's conferees and Lawyers Club members.

## GALA BANQUET

Saturday, October 18 started with a morning walking tour led by Commissioner Pennie K. McLaughlin, and was followed back at the Hotel by two very powerful plenary sessions *Judicial Decision-Making: Demographics, Neuroscience, Fairness, and Access to Justice and Election, Selection, and Retention of Judges: Challenges to Judicial Independence*. Attendees used the rest of the afternoon to recover from the discoveries of both the human condition shared by Kimberly Papillon, and the state of politics in the judiciary by the particular example of Florida Justice Peggy Ann Quince.

The night belonged to NAWJ's Annual Banquet Gala. Opened by the march of four members of the local YWCA Girl Scouts Color Guard, and followed by greetings from the Premier Sponsor Gomez Law Group, outgoing NAWJ President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby then shared the accomplishments of her year as President and teased the audience with the promise of the Gala's Keynote Speaker, Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor (U.S. Supreme Court) to come. Justice Sotomayor did not disappoint, sharing example of colleagues she admired who were pioneers, charting their own path by building organizations to serve those in need. Justice Sotomayor challenged everyone by reminding all that public service, serving as a lawyer, is a noble profession. By evening's end, no one was as happy as incoming NAWJ President Judge Julie E. Frantz (Multnomah County Circuit Court) whose swearing-end ceremony capped the evening.





## NAWJ Tribute to the Honorable Joan Dempsey Klein

The name Joan Dempsey Klein is synonymous with the nouns pioneer, innovator, mover and shaker, leader, mentor and model. The adjectives that form a constellation around this august woman for all seasons include determined, strong, passionate, brilliant, forthright, fair and compassionate - with a quick wit and attentive ear that engages all whom she gathers around for the power of good. She is the star that shines above us in the center of that constellation that has guided us for almost four decades since she had the bold and brazen idea in 1979 to found, along with her friend and colleague, the Hon. Vaino Spencer, the National Association of Women Judges - NAWJ.

I became aware of the Hon. Joan Dempsey Klein by name before I had the privilege of meeting her. I instinctively associated the name with "fighter" after the legendary Jack Dempsey. As I learned more about this courageous and determined woman, I realized the arena was different, but the relentless determination was the same - it was an apt word association.

As co-founder and the first president of NAWJ, Joan has paved the way with for countless women and minorities to scale the steep steps to positions of profound leadership in the legal profession and in the judiciary, and has had an endless and profound impact on fostering greater diversity on the bench that is gradually but increasingly more reflective of this nation's demographics - of the people from all backgrounds that comprise our communities, and access our courts with a deserved expectation of fairness and individual respect. Each member of NAWJ over these almost four decades has spread to innumerable others through our projects, such as the early signature Color of Justice program to the newly created Informed Voters Fair Judges project the essence of the NAWJ mission and the truths that flow from it. And it all traces back to the vision and passionate commitment of Joan Dempsey Klein.

The Honorable Joan Dempsey Klein has been named Woman of the year, Person of the Year, Appellate Justice of the Year - in addition to being the first UCLA law graduate to join the Judiciary and the award first recipient of the California Women Lawyers of Achievement Award named after her and of the coveted Margaret Brent Woman Lawyer of Achievement Award - and I could go on and on ...

but Joan's light shines brightest in our NAWJ eyes for all that she has done to advance women in the legal profession to share their intellectual gifts, leadership talents, and community oriented passion for the benefit of all, with a focus on those who have historically been in disfavored groups, while keeping the promise of the rule of law.

Joan, all of your NAWJ offspring thank you from the depth of our souls for your visionary leadership, tireless commitment and passion to make the justice system and world a better place. Congratulations on a phenomenal and ever-inspiring career!

- Judge Julie E. Frantz, NAWJ President

## DISTRICT ONE (MA, ME, NH, PR, RI)

**Recently retired Gloucester District Court Judge and NAWJ member Ellen Flatley** was honored by the North Shore Women Lawyers Association “for her distinguished career and her hard work to insure justice is done every day.” She was particularly recognized for her concern for women and family issues and the fair treatment of women, especially indigent women, in the courts. Judge Flatley is also a past recipient of the Distinguished Jurist Award by the Massachusetts Association of Women Lawyers.

Along with the Women’s Leadership Academy, the District co-sponsored the “Feminism Today” program at the Suffolk University Law School.

New Hampshire Chief Justice Linda S. Dalianis was honored at the Suffolk University Law School Alumni and Awards Dinner with the presentation of the **Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award**. **Judge Dalianis** was the first woman appointed to the New Hampshire Superior Court and rose to be the first female Chief Justice of the Superior Court. In 2000, she achieved another first when appointed to the New Hampshire Supreme Court and in 2010, still another, when elevated to Chief Justice.

The Massachusetts Bar Association and the **Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys** hosted a reception honoring the recent appointments of NAWJ members Angela M. Ordoñez as Chief Justice of the Probate and Family Court and Diana L. Maldonado as Associate Justice of the Massachusetts Appeals Court.

The District organized a Color of Justice Program at New Mission High School in Boston in conjunction with the Massachusetts Bar Association’s Tiered Community Mentoring Program. The program coordinators were able to bring together a particularly diverse and distinguished panel including the Chief Justice of the Probate and Family Court, Angela Ordoñez, Judges Gloria Tan of the Juvenile Court, Antoinette Leoney of the District Court and Geraldine Hines of the Appeals Court. All of whom are NAWJ Members.

**NAWJ Past President Judge Amy Nechtem** received the 2013 **Community Service Award from the Simmons College Alumnae Association** in October. The presentation was made by fellow Simmons Alumnae, Chief Justice Karyn Scheier of the Land Court another NAWJ member. She also attended the annual conference of the Bulgarian Judges Association in October.

**Four District members were presented the Massachusetts Judges Conference Judicial Excellence Award:** Hon. Terry Craven, First Justice of the Boston Juvenile Court; Hon. Judith Fabricant, Associate Justice of the Superior Court; Hon. Ellen Flatley, Associate Justice, Lynn District Court; and Hon. Mary Anne Sahagian, First Justice of the Essex County Probate and Family Court. This **award recognizes judges who demonstrate a commitment to “maintaining a fair and impartial judiciary and legal system”** and have “the courage and willingness to work unselfishly for the benefit of society.”

**District Director Judge MaryLou Muirhead officiated at** the Inaugural Exercises for the City of Lynn on January 6, 2014. In addition to administering the Oath of Office to the City Council and School Committee, Judge Muirhead swore in Mayor Judith Flanagan Kennedy for a second four-year term. Ms. Kennedy is the first woman to serve as Mayor of Lynn, having been first elected in 2009 after mounting a write-in campaign which unseated the incumbent by 27 votes. Last November she was resoundingly re-elected and her administration has been credited with making positive strides to improve conditions in the city.

Two District members recently participated in a conference for the United States District Court for Rhode Island entitled *Creativity and the Courts*. Chief Judge Patti Saris, U. S. District Court for Massachusetts, served on a panel dealing with *Creative Sentencing: Exploring Alternatives to Incarceration* and Judge O. Rogerie Thompson, U. S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, participated with the *Meet the Judges* panel of newly appointed Federal Judges.

Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Maureen McKenna Goldberg was **the Keynote Speaker at the Rhode Island Women in Action** program at St. Andrew’s School in Barrington, R. I.

Judge Haiganush Bedrosian, Chief Judge of the Rhode Island Family Court, **addressed the American Association of Public Welfare Attorneys at the opening ceremonies** of the 2013 National Training and Continuing Education Conference at Newport, R. I.

The Massachusetts Association of Women Lawyers presented **Judge Amy Lyn Blake**, formerly of the Essex County Probate and Family Court, with its **2013 Distinguished Jurist Award** at its Annual Banquet. The Massachusetts Association of Women Lawyers was founded in 1905 and is the oldest women’s bar association in the Commonwealth.

### District One (MA, ME, RI, NH, PR)

Hon. MaryLou Muirhead  
Boston Housing Court  
Massachusetts

### District Two (NY, CT, VT)

Hon. Betty J. Williams  
New York State Supreme Court,  
Kings County

### District Three (NJ, PA, DE, VI)

Hon. Kathryn Hens-Greco  
Allegheny County Court of Pleas  
Pennsylvania

### District Four (MD, DC, VA)

Hon. Toni E. Clarke  
Circuit Court for Prince George’s  
County, Maryland

### District Five (FL, GA, NC, SC)

Hon. Diana S. Eagon, Retired  
Hennepin County District Court  
Nokomis, Florida

### District Six (AL, LA, MS, TN)

Hon. Joy Cossich Lobrano  
Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal  
New Orleans, Louisiana

### District Seven (MI, OH, WV)

Hon. Katherine L. Hansen  
36th District Court, Michigan

### District Eight (IN, IL, KY)

Hon. Laninya A. Cason  
20th Judicial Circuit, St. Clair County  
Illinois

### District Nine (MO, IA, WI)

Hon. Ellen Levy Siwak  
21st Judicial Circuit, Division 11  
Missouri

### District Ten (KS, MN, NE, ND, SD)

Hon. Debbie Kleven  
Northeast Central Judicial District  
Grand Forks, North Dakota

### District Eleven (TX, AR, OK)

Hon. Rebeca Martinez  
Fourth Court of Appeals, Texas

### District Twelve (AZ, CO, NM, UT, WY)

Hon. Terry Fox  
Colorado Court of Appeals

### District Thirteen (WA, OR, AK, HI, ID, MT)

Hon. Marilyn G. Paja  
Kitsap County District Court  
Washington

### District Fourteen (CA, NV)

Hon. Tamila E. Ipema  
San Diego County Superior Court  
California

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Eastern District of Pennsylvania

## DISTRICT NEWS

**Several NAWJ members participated in Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education programs.** Judge Carol Ball of the Massachusetts Superior Court was on the faculty of the 14th Annual Criminal Law Conference in October.

**Judge Judith Dein**, Chief Magistrate Judge of the U.S. District Court for Massachusetts and **Judges Christine Roach and Janet Sanders** of the Massachusetts Superior Court served on the faculty of the 12th Annual Business Litigation Conference.

**Judges Amy Lyn Blake and Mary Anne Sahagian** were faculty members for the 2013 Family Court Judicial Forum in Worcester, Massachusetts.

**Judge Barbara Hyland** of the Probate and Family Court represented the judicial branch of government at the American Legal Systems class at Elms College in Chicopee, Massachusetts.

**Judge Kathe Tuttman** served on the three-judge panel presiding over the 2013 Massachusetts Bar Association Mock Trial Competition at Faneuil Hall.

**Judge Mary Dacey White has been appointed** First Justice of the Brookline District Court. Judge White has served on the bench since 2006 and is the daughter of the late Judge Kathleen Ryan Dacey, an Administrative Law Judge for the Social Security Administration and also a member of the NAWJ.

**Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Justice Margot Botsford** was featured as part of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates *James Otis Lecture Series* entitled Lelia Robinson and the Quest for Equality.

The First Justice of the Berkshire Juvenile Court, **Joan McMenemy**, participated in National Adoption Day last November in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

**Justice Geraldine Hines** participated in "A Day of Service and Celebration in Honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." at Faneuil Hall, organized by Boston Mayor Martin Walsh and the Museum of African American History.

Superior Court Justice (Retired) and NAWJ Deputy District Director Lelia Kern **serves on the Board of Directors for REACH Beyond Domestic Violence.**

### NAWJ at the ABA Judicial Reception in Boston



NAWJ at the ABA Judicial Reception in Boston with the John Marshall Award recipient, seated in the middle, Mary McCall. L-R: front row: Judges Marcella Holland and Ann Breen-Greco. Second row (l-r), Judges Sophia Hall, Cheryl Cesario, Julie Weatherly, Kathleen Mulligan, Ramona See, Amy Nechtem, Cristiana Kalvaritinos, Sandra Robinson, and May Kelly

### NAWJ at the ABA Annual, John Adams Courthouse



NAWJ at the ABA Annual in Boston at a meeting arranged by Judges Amy Nechtem and Ariane Vuono at the John Adams Courthouse. L-: Judges Toni Clarke, Marcella Holland, Amy Nechtem, Ann Breen-Greco, Julie Weatherly, Ariane Vuono.

NAWJ Judges and ABA Judicial Division Judges at the JD's John Marshall reception in Boston at the ABA annual meeting in August: Left to right--Judges Christina

### NAWJ at the ABA John Marshall Reception



NAWJ Judges and ABA Judicial Division Judges at the John Marshall reception in Boston for the ABA Annual Meeting in August. L-R: Judges Christina Kalavritinos, Annette Scieszinski, Ann Breen-Greco, Leslie Miller, Sophia Hall, Kathleen Mulligan, Nanette Baker, Cheryl Cesario, Linda Murnane, and Michelle Childs.

## DISTRICT TWO (CT,NY,VT)

### Congratulations to State Chairs

**Justice Mary Sommer, Connecticut Superior Court** (Fairfield District) was appointed NAWJ State Chair for Connecticut on September 29, 2014. Thank you Justice Patty Pittman for recommending Justice Sommer, and for your service as State Chair for Connecticut 2014.



### Color of Justice and MentorJet Program

Judge Joanne Quiñones, the District's Program Coordinator, and Justice Betty J. Williams, at the request of retired Justice Jackie Silbermann are **continuing collaboration with the New York Women's Bar Association (NYWBA) with program planning.** Ms. Yacine Barry-Wun, Esq., President, New York Women's Bar Association and Judge Quiñones are planning Mentor Jet and Color of Justice Programs in New York County in 2015. Ms. Barry-Wun reports – the NYWBA Diversity Committee has contacted New York University, New York Law School, Cardozo Law School, Fordham and Columbia law schools regarding a Mentor Jet program. Fordham and New York University Law Schools have expressed interest in sponsoring a program in either March or April 2015. Justice Ruth Shillingford has volunteered to coordinate the Kings County Color of Justice Program again this year and Queens County Color of Justice Program is in the process.

### Human and Sex Trafficking Continuing Legal Education

On May 19, 2014 at the United States District Court, Southern District, NAWJ New York Chapter co-sponsored the New York Women's Bar Association Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program **"Human Trafficking: Stemming the Tide."** Judge Lisa A. Sokoloff moderated the presentation. The panelists included Kate Mogulescu, Founder and Supervising Attorney, Legal Aid Society's Trafficking Victims Advocacy Project; John Temple, Attorney-in-Charge, Human Trafficking Program, New York County District Attorney's Office; Lori Cohen, Director, Anti-Trafficking Initiative, Sanctuary for Families; Miriam Goodman, Coordinator of Trafficking Programs at the Center for Court Innovation; Anthony Favale, Deputy Inspector, NYPD Vice Enforcement Division Coordinator and Stephen De Luca, ECPAT-USA Board of Advisors. The CLE program also included a screening of **"Tricked", a documentary from 3 Generations by Jane Wells and John-Keith Wasson.** New York Women in Prison chair, Chief Administrative Judge Cheryl Gonzales, New York City Family Court Justice Edwina Richardson-Mendelson, and District two Director Justice Betty J. Williams attended the CLE.

### Justice is a Black Woman: The Life and Work of Constance Baker Motley Film Screening



PHOTO LEFT. One of former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall's NAACP legal teams included Jack Greenberg (left) and Judge Constance Baker Motley. Photo courtesy of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund). PHOTO RIGHT. In 1966, Judge Motley being sworn in as District Judge for the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York.

On Monday, September 15, 2014, the New York Chapter, District Two, NAWJ's Fairness and Access Committee and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) held a screening of the outstanding documentary film *Justice is a Black Woman: The Life and Work of Constance Baker Motley*. The Chief Judge of

the Southern District of New York, Honorable Loretta Preska, along with New York NAWJ President Appellate Division Justice Darcel Clark, gave welcome remarks. Former NAWJ President Justice La Tia W. Martin served as the moderator of the program. The film documented the stellar career of Judge Constance Baker Motley.

Judge Baker Motley joined NAACP LDF where she was mentored by then-litigator, Justice Thurgood Marshall, and where she won many notable civil rights victories in the U.S. Supreme Court and represented Martin Luther King Jr. After leaving NAACP LDF, Judge Baker Motley was the first African American woman to serve in the New York State Senate, as well as the first woman Manhattan Borough President. Judge Baker Motley became the first African American woman to be appointed to the federal judiciary in 1966 and the first woman appointed to the Southern District of New York. She became Chief Judge of the Southern District of New York in 1982.



(L-R) Sherrilyn Ifill, Esq., Hon. Debra James, Hon. Darcel D. Clark, Dr. Gary Ford, Jr., Hon. La Tia W. Martin, Hon. Joan Madden, Hon. Betty J. Williams, Hon. Doris Gonzalez.)

The screening held on Justice Baker Motley's birthdate was well attended by Federal and State Court Judges, President/Director-Counsel and the Associate Director-Counsel of NAACP LDF, as well as many other guests. A former law clerk to Justice Baker Motley, now a federal District Court Judge, Honorable Laura Swain Taylor was also in attendance. The screening was followed by a Q&A with the producer, Dr. Gary Ford, Jr. who wrote his dissertation on Justice Baker Motley. Dr. Ford graduated cum laude with a B.A. from Harvard University, received a J.D. from Columbia University Law school, earned an M.F.A. from New School University, and a received his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. The production team for the documentary included Professor Michael Calia, Director of the Quinipiac University Ed McMahon Mass Communications Center and Director/Producer of the film; Ms. Susan Bailey, Script Writer and Ms. Lynn Bushnell, Executive Producer.

### From the Bar to Bench

Justice Sheri Roman, New York Appellate Division, Second Department, has successfully coordinated the "Bar to Bench" program for many years. On October 6, 2014, distinguished Columbia Law School alumna and New York State Court of Appeals Justice Sheila Abdus-Salaam '77 joined two of her colleagues from the judiciary for a discussion about their careers in the law. Justices Abdus-Salaam, Kathy J. King, a New York City Civil Court judge who has been an acting Supreme Court Judge in Kings County since 2009, and Lisa

A. Sokoloff, a New York City Civil Court Judge who sits by designation in the New York City Criminal Court, addressed some of the challenges they faced as they began their careers in an often male-dominated field.



(L-R) Justice Sheila Abdus-Salaam, Judge Lisa A. Sokoloff, Justice Kathy J. King.

Justice Abdus-Salaam said when she began her career she was often the only woman, black woman, or black person in a room. Justice King, who is now President of the National Association of Women Judges New York Chapter, said “students shouldn’t second-guess their skills”; she was elected a judge despite the fact that she didn’t have a significant background in litigation prior to taking the bench. Judge Lisa Ann Sokoloff, who started her career as a domestic relations attorney, said pursuing interests in the law—whatever they may be—is key to standing out.

### Gender & Racial Fairness Committee of the Court in the 8th Judicial District

Judge Amy Martoche produced a presentation on the purpose and **protocols of the Human Traffic Court.**

Members hosted a program about the selection and training of court interpreters to enhance awareness of issues that impact non English speaking populations of people within the legal system.

Training sessions were held in Buffalo, Lockport and Niagara Falls, New York in September, 2014 in honor of a request for mandatory cultural sensitivity training for all court officers.

Members participated in a program, followed by a reception, about Women in the Courts. **The names of Women Trailblazers who were honored by the Gender & Racial Fairness Committee** will be placed on a plaque and displayed in the 4th Department Appellate Division on Oct. 22, 2014.

### Justice Betty Williams

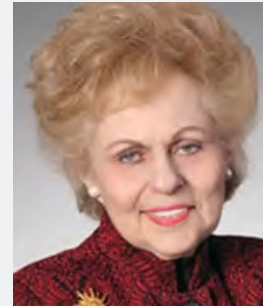
On April 15, 2014, Justice Betty J. Williams hosted a Shadow Day for an aspiring law student in conjunction with the New York Coalition of 100 Black Women. On June 16, 2014 Justice Williams spoke to high school students following a courtroom observation sponsored by the Kings County District Attorney Office in collaboration with The New York City Department of Education. Assistant District Attorney Lance Ogiste, Esq. coordinated the visit. Justice Williams also hosted a courtroom visit with elementary school students from Brooklyn Youth Sports Club summer program on July 29, 2014.

### Justice Lisa S. Ottley

On May 28, 2014, Justice Lisa S. Ottley, Supervising Judge, Civil Court, Kings County received the Beatrice M. Judge Recognition Award at the Brooklyn Women’s Bar Association 96th Annual Dinner held at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. From 2000 until her judicial election in 2008, Justice Ottley served as an Associate Court Attorney in Kings County

Civil Court. In 2009 Justice Ottley became a New York City Civil Court judge. Justice Ottley currently serves as a Board Member at the Brooklyn Women’s Bar Association and is an Adjunct Professor at Long Island University, Brooklyn campus.

### Honorable Betty Weinberg Ellerin



**On March 7, 2014,** Judge Ellerin was recognized at The Arthritis Foundation Annual Women on the Move Luncheon. The Women on the Move Annual Luncheon celebrates women who are balancing family life, career and community involvement. The Foundation helps women cope with and prevent the disease, while leading fulfilling and active lives.

**On April 24, 2014,** Retired Judge Betty Weinberg Ellerin was honored at the New York County Lawyer’s Association’s First Annual Spring Fundraiser with a Musical Tribute. The event took place at the NYCLA Home of Law on 14 Vesey Street.

**On July 25, 2014,** Judge Ellerin was appointed to Mayor Bill DeBlasio’s Committee on the Judiciary. The Committee is responsible for recruiting, screening and recommending to the Mayor highly qualified, diverse and experienced candidates for judicial appointments to the New York City Criminal and Family Courts, as well as interim appointments to the elected Civil Court in the event of vacancies.

**On August 19, 2014,** Judge Ellerin received The New York Law Journal’s Lifetime Achievement Award. The Law Journal’s lifetime achievers, a group of judges and lawyers who have devoted their careers to challenging and shaping the legal community in New York were honored during the 125th Anniversary Dinner, held on Monday, November 4th at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers. Judge Betty Weinberg Ellerin, currently is Senior Counsel at Alston & Bird. She retired from the bench on December 31, 2005 after service as a Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department for over 20 years. Past President of the National Association of Women Judges and recipient of the 2009 NAWJ Florence K. Murray Award for influencing women to pursue legal careers, she opened doors for women attorneys and advanced opportunities for women within the legal profession, Judge Ellerin is the longtime Chair of the New York State Judicial Committee on Women In The Courts. She is Vice-Chair of the New York State Court System’s mandated Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics and serves as Vice-Chair of the Appellate Division, First Department’s Committee on Character and Fitness.

**On June 10, 2014, Justice Marsha L. Steinhardt,** Civil Term, Kings County Supreme Court, was installed as President of the Brooklyn Women’s Bar Association at the ceremonial courtroom at Kings County Supreme Court, Civil Term.



### Kings County Criminal Court Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration



(L-R) Judge Joanne Quiñones, Assemblyman Felix Ortiz, Judge Michael Yavinsky, Judge Frederick C. Arriaga, Justice Jenny Rivera, Judge Raymond L. Rodriguez, Judge ShawnDya L. Simpson, Judge Evelyn J. Laporte.

On October 3, 2014, **Judge Joanne Quiñones chaired the Committee** that facilitated the first Kings County Criminal Court Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration. New York State Court of Appeals Justice Jenny Rivera delivered the keynote speech at the Hispanic Heritage Month celebration. The celebration included remarks from New York State Assemblyman Felix Ortiz and Kings County District Attorney Kenneth Thompson. The celebration was attended by Judges and court personnel from Kings County Criminal and Supreme Courts.

### New York County Lawyers Association Presents “Women and Incarceration”



(L-R) Justice Ruth Shillingford, Judge Joanne Quiñones, Judge Cheryl Gonzales, Tamar Kraft-Stolar, Jaya Vasandani, Justice Marcy Khan, Tanya Krupat, Justice Tandra L. Dawson, Caroline Hsu, Justice Betty J. Williams

On October 21, 2014 Justice Betty J. Williams moderated a New York County Lawyers Association CLE panel entitled “**Women and Incarceration.**” Panel members included Supreme Court Justice Tandra L. Dawson, New York County’s Integrated Domestic Violence Court; Caroline Hsu, Legal Aid Society; Tanya Krupat, Osborne Society; Tamar Kraft-Stolar and Jaya Vasandani, Correctional Association of New York.

### New York Federal-State-Tribal and Indian Nations Justice Forum



Since 2002, Justice Marcy L. Kahn (Supreme Court, First District, New York, NY) has led the New York Tribal Courts Committee for the New York Unified Court System in convening and leading the New York Federal-State-Tribal and Indian Nations Justice Forum. The Forum comprises participants from the New York State Courts, the United

States Courts of the Second Circuit in New York, and the courts and justice systems of the nine state-recognized Indian tribal nations resident in New York, and meets twice yearly. **The mission of the Forum includes promoting understanding and avoiding jurisdictional conflicts among our various justice systems.**

**In 2014, the Forum has moved forward on several important initiatives.** Led by Justice Kahn, Tribal Courts Committee Co-Chair Hon. Edward Davidowitz and Committee Vice Chair Honorable Sharon Townsend, the Forum secured the enactment by the state Legislature, and signing-into-law, by Governor Andrew Cuomo of a **statutory amendment granting state recognition to marriages performed in Indian country by designated officials of tribal nations.** Our “Teach ICWA” committee, led by the Hon. Lizbeth Gonzalez and the Hon. Carrie Garro, published five groundbreaking articles in an issue of the New York State Bar Journal devoted to the Indian Child Welfare Act and the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court in the *Baby Veronica* case. A court rule requiring comity analysis for judgments of tribal nation courts is currently pending before the New York Administrative Board of the Courts. And **Justice Kahn was invited for the third time to address the National Indian Nations Justice Conference** in Palm Springs, California regarding the creative tribal-state initiatives being undertaken in New York.

The Forum’s work continues, with much to do. But listening to one another and working together, we have accomplished a great deal during the journey together. More of our work can be seen at [NYFed-State-TribalCourtsForum.org](http://NYFed-State-TribalCourtsForum.org).

### New York State Judges - Appointed, Re-Appointed, Elected and Re-Elected

**Justice Betsy Barros** was appointed to New York State Appellate Division, Second Department on April 15, 2014. Justice Barros began her judicial career in 1996 when she was elected to the New York City Civil Court. She joined the Kings County Supreme Court, Civil Term of the New York Supreme Court 2nd Judicial District in New York in 1998 and re-elected in 2011. Justice Barros is the first Latina ever to serve on the court and was a Special Assistant Attorney General with the Office of the Special State Prosecutor from 1988 to 1990. Justice Barros began her legal career with the Brooklyn Legal Aid Society in 1982 and also served as an Assistant District Attorney in the Kings County District Attorney Office.

**Judges Miriam M. Breier and Enedina P. Sanchez** were appointed to Housing, Civil Court of the City of New York, Bronx County in 2014 by Chief Administrative Judge A. Gail Prudenti.



## DISTRICT NEWS

On October 17, 2014, **Honorable Leslie Stein, New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Third Department** was appointed to the State of New York Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo. Justice Stein's appointment has to be confirmed by the New York Senate. Justice Stein began her legal career in 1981 as a confidential law clerk on the Schenectady County Family Court and in 1983 went into private practice specializing in matrimonial family law. In 1997 Justice Stein was elected Albany City Court Judge and served as an Acting Family Court Judge from 2001 until her election to the New York Supreme Court 3rd Judicial District. As the Administrative Judge of the Rensselaer County Integrated Domestic Violence Part (2006-2008), she chaired the Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee from 2001 to 2005.

**Congratulations to the newly elected and re-elected Judges in New York State Supreme Court, 2nd District:** Judges Evelyn J. Laporte, Kathy J. King, Lara J. Genovesi and Wavny Toussaint and in **New York City Civil Court:** Judges Arlene Bluth, Cenceria P. Edwards, J. Machele Sweeting, Lizette Colon and Sharon Clarke.

**Justice E. Jeanette Ogden was re-elected** to New York State Supreme Court, 8th District on November 4, 2014.

### DISTRICT THREE (DE,NJ,PA,VI)

#### Judge Sue Pai Yang Chairs National Workplace Bullying Coalition

NJNAWJ Member, Hon. Sue Pai Yang served as Chair of the National Workplace Bullying Coalition that was held on April 14, 2014, at Rutgers Law School – Newark. She was instrumental in having the NAWJ pass a resolution supporting the work. Judge Yang is former District Three Director, and Conference Chair for NAWJ's 2011 Annual Conference.

#### NAWJ Members Perform Same Sex Marriages



Members of the District were among the first to perform same sex marriages upon their legalization in Pennsylvania. Judges volunteered their time and performed group marriages even though the Courts were closed for a snow day, and also came in on Saturday. True dedication and commitment to the cause!

**Congratulations to Judge Doris Smith-Ribner** (Retired) who was recently appointed to President's Education Committee.

#### New Jersey Presents Color of Justice

The NAWJ New Jersey Chapter held its Color of Justice program on October 4, 2014 at Seton Hall University School of Law-Newark. Our Color of Justice Program was sponsored to encourage diversity in the Judiciary. Diversity on the bench and throughout the legal profession is an important goal of our justice program.

### DISTRICT FOUR (DC,MD,VA)

#### Human Trafficking Delegation from Chile Visits Washington, D.C.



Back row (l-r): Carolina Vizcarra Rudnick, Coordinator of Chile's Inter-Agency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons, Ministry of the Interior; Hon. Joan Churchill, U.S. Immigration Judge (Retired), NAWJ Past President, Chair of the NAWJ Immigration Committee; Elena Rivas Valdés, Director of the Raices TIP Victims' Shelter, and Professor at the Metropolitan Technological University; Mónica P. Alcalde, Specialist in Cultural Issues, U.S. Embassy, Santiago Chile; Hon. Cathy H. Serrette, Judge, 7th Judicial Circuit of Maryland; Front row (l-r): Hon. Toni Clarke, Judge, 7th Judicial Circuit of Maryland; Camila Maturana Kesten, Esq., LaVonda Baldwin, Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U.S. Department of State

After Judge Lisa Walsh spoke in Chile to the newly formed Association of Women Judges on human trafficking, a human trafficking delegation from Chile visited Washington, D.C. in July. The meeting with NAWJ members was facilitated by the U.S. State Department, which sponsored the delegation. Our meeting was arranged by Judges Toni Clarke and Cathy Serrette at their Courthouse located in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The delegation was accompanied by a Mónica P. Alcalde of the U.S. Embassy staff in Chile, and LaVonda Baldwin, a summer intern at the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U.S. Department of State. Following a round table discussion between the Chilean delegation and American participants, the Chilean delegation as well several of us, observed a Human Trafficking workshop for students, presented by a representative of the Fair Girls organization. Also in attendance, but not pictured above, were Judge Julia Weatherly, 7th Judicial Circuit of Maryland and Judge Karen H. Mason, Prince George's County, MD District Court.

**We were invited to meet with Senator Mikulski's staff** to have a discussion about the conditions for women in federal prisons. Senator Mikulski was Chair of the Appropriations Committee and is conducting research on the issue. This was a wonderful opportunity for NAWJ to give the Senator our history with dealing with this issue. Those who were able to attend that meeting are hopeful that the dialogue will continue.

The Maryland Chapter's Seventh Annual "Women Moving Forward" (WMF) Reentry Conference took place on October 11, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., at the Women's Correctional Institution for Women in Jessup, Maryland. The National Organization of Women Judges, with volunteers from District 4's Maryland Chapter, is spearheaded this project along with a host of many volunteers from the public, private and non-profit sectors. The goal of the WMF

conference is to provide information and resources about many areas, including housing, employment preparation, education, entrepreneurship, drug and mental health resources, to support the successful transition of incarcerated women back into their communities. As in past years, the conference promises to inspire and motivate women so that they know we care about them, and that their success outside is a passion to which we devote our unwavering dedication.

**The Maryland Chapter continues to work on its Girl Scouts program and the Storybook Project.**

#### Women's Law Center of Maryland Awards NAWJ Members



(L-R) Women's Law Center Executive Director Tracy Brown; Judge Cathy Serrette (7th Judicial Circuit of Maryland) Rosalyn B. Bell Award honoree; Martina Vandenberg, Access to Justice Award honoree; Judge Barbara Baer Waxman (District Court of Maryland) Dorothy Beatty Memorial Award honoree.

**The Virginia Chapter is planning its annual Scholarship Awards dinner.**

## DISTRICT FIVE (FL,GA,NC,SC)

#### District Director Hon. Diana Eagon



District Director Diana Eagon's 23 year judicial career was spent in Minnesota, where she first served in Family Court and later as a District Court Trial Judge. During her judicial tenure, she served as District 10 Director, chaired the 2002 NAWJ Annual Conference, and received the Civility Award from the Family Bar and Distinguished Service Award from the State Bar. After retirement,

she moved to Florida where she continued her commitment to NAWJ, its members and its programs, including serving as co-chair of the NAWJ 2007 Regional Conference in Miami when District Five's Director. She believes the objectives of NAWJ can only be accomplished through the good works of the state chairs, and the outstanding efforts of all our members. She appreciates your support, and look forward to working with you.

#### FLORIDA

**Judge Myriam Lehr NAWJ's state representative** for Florida. She sits on the 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida at the North Dade Justice Center.

Florida has been actively engaged in the Informed Voters Fair Judges voter education project (IVP). Informed Voters

Fair Judges in Florida is driven by members Supreme Justice Barbara Pariente and attorney Linda Leali. They are co-chairs for the state of Florida Coordinating Committee. On June 9, 2014 the National Constitution Center presented a webinar "A Judges Perspective on a Fair and Impartial Judiciary". It was an insider's look at challenges state court judges face in a charged political environment. NAWJ Past President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby and Justice Barbara J. Pariente were participants. The event was sponsored by the IVP and featured the film "Fair and Free".

On October 2, 2014, Informed Voters-Fair Judges Project sponsored a symposium at Florida International University (FIU). The topic was "A Judges Perspective on Current Threats to a Fair and Impartial Judiciary." NAWJ Past President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, former Justice Raoul G. Cantero III, Justice Barbara J. Pariente and Judge Lisa Walsh participated. A District scholarship was awarded at the symposium to a FIU law student in honor of Constitution Day.

#### Breakthrough Miami Visits Courthouse



In July, Judges Gladys Perez and Lisa Walsh hosted a courthouse visit for the students of Breakthrough Miami. Breakthrough Miami provides an academic enrichment program to ensure that motivated under resourced middle school students have access to excellent high school opportunities, graduate from high school on time, and attend college. The students met judges, lawyers, bailiffs, and other court personnel. They also participated in a mock trial, and received a tour from the court historian.

#### North Dade Justice Center Color of Justice



Pictured with the students are Judge Linda Singer Stein and attorney Jason Neufeld, Mr. Beer and attorneys Christopher Saunders with Sebastian Lissa.



On November 14, 2014 NAWJ State Chair Myriam Lehr, along with Judge Linda Singer Stein, presented a Color of Justice Program to high school students from the Mourning High School Law Academy. The program took place at the North Dade Justice Center, main courtroom. Also in attendance was NAWJ President-Elect Judge Lisa Walsh.

Seventy students attended along with their teacher, Mr. Beer. The first presenters were two law students, Saida Wurie and Ashley Gantt, from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center. They shared insights about their law school experience, and how they arrived at the decision to pursue the law.



Judges Lehr and Singer Stein with presenting law students Saida Wurie and Ashley Gantt with attorney Jason Neufeld.)

Next were attorneys Sebastian Lissa and Christopher Saunders. They both spoke about concepts of insurance litigation involving personal injury protection (PIP) as well as how civil litigation works. The President of the North Dade Bar Association, Jason Newfeld, discussed bodily injury cases and medical malpractice cases. The event was a great success; students asked plenty of questions and participated enthusiastically.

### Members at the Annual Conference in San Diego



### GEORGIA

Georgia Southern University **Professor Rebecca Davis** is NAWJ's state representative for Georgia.

**Judge Kimberly M. Esmond Adams** received the National Bar Association 2014 Judicial Council Chair Award. She also received the Kentucky State University National Alumni Thoroughbred Award for Civic leadership.

### Constitution Day at Therrell High School

On September 9, 2014, in conjunction with NAWJ and the Judicial Section of the Atlanta Bar, Therrell High School hosted a Constitution Day program featuring panelists: Court of Appeal's Presiding Judge Sara L. Doyle, attorney Sara E. Galloway, and Officer Allen Johnson, Program Director of Save Our Students Academy, Inc. After a short welcome and introduction by Principal Shelly H. Powell, the program kicked off with Judge Doyle providing an overview of the Constitution and its Amendments followed by a viewing of NAWJ's "Fair and Free" video which features commentary by retired United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Sara Galloway then led a short quiz session where students earned gold coin chocolates for correctly answering questions about the Constitution, and Officer Johnson spoke to the students about real-world applications of the 1st, 4th and 6th Amendments.



The program ended with an overview of the judicial system and students participating in a short appellate argument. All students were provided NAWJ's flyers: "What Voters Need to Know" and an Informed Voters-Fair Judges and Georgia's Administrative Office of the Courts poster named "Georgia's Court System" to take with them. The program was a great success due to the fine coordination by Sharifah D. Lee, an attorney who teaches at Therrell High School, and the help of the student council, who hosted a reception for the panelists prior to the program.





### Constitution Day Program at Georgia Southern University

On September 17, 2014 in conjunction with Georgia Southern University, the Informed Voters Project hosted a Constitution Day Program featuring a display of student projects and a video presentation by former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor titled "Fair and Free." The Keynote Speaker was Matthew K. Hube of Hube Law Firm, who presented "How Civil Rights and Liberties Impact You." Political Science

Professors Dr. Joshua Kennedy and Dr. Michael Romano discussed "The Intent and Reality of the Presidency" and "The Constitution, Congress and the Courts."

### NORTH CAROLINA

Retired State Court **Judge Jane Harper** is NAWJ's state representative for North Carolina.

**Army Judge Tara Osborn** has been reappointed to a third judicial term and named the Chief Trial Judge of the US Army. In that capacity she presides over felony criminal trials and oversees judicial operations at military operations worldwide. She has been reassigned chambers in Virginia.

North Carolina Chief Justice Sarah Parker has recently retired leaving North Carolina **Supreme Court Justice Robin Hudson as the highest-ranking woman in the North Carolina Court system.** Justice Hudson is involved in a contested reelection campaign. She managed to win a three judge primary in May, 2014.

### SOUTH CAROLINA

**Administrative Law Court Judge Carolyn Cason Matthews** is state representative for South Carolina. Her court sits in Columbia.

**Chisa Putman** is the co-chair of the South Carolina Young Lawyer Color of Justice committee. **Five Color of Justice programs were presented in South Carolina this year.** They were held in the following counties, Charleston, Spartanburg, York, Orangeburg, and Richland. The programs reached more than one hundred students. The committee extended its outreach in 2014 to college students. The purpose was to visit **each historically black college and university in the state and educate students on the legal profession and encourage them to pursue a legal career.** This past year one school was visited and Walmart provided

a grant to further the project. The program won first place for minority community programming through the **ABA Awards of Achievement.**

## DISTRICT SIX (AL,LA,MS,TN)

### Membership Recruitment efforts in Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee

In Mississippi, Judge Margaret Alfonso on the Harrison County Court in Gulfport agreed to serve as the NAWJ's chair for Mississippi. We are reaching out to judges and attorneys in Alabama to identify a state chair. Planning has begun for a **joint event in either Mobile or Biloxi** in conjunction with a legal seminar to provide information about NAWJ and to discuss joint NAWJ's projects with Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. Also, **data is being collected to determine the dynamics of the judiciary in Mississippi and Alabama** and recommendations will be made as to the ways in which the NAWJ can contribute to the states' judicial role in protecting the rights of individuals, creating a diverse judicial leadership, promoting fairness and equality in the courts and insuring equal access to justice. We are also reaching out to judges and attorneys in Tennessee to identify a state chair and to conduct an analysis of the Tennessee judiciary and make recommendation similar to the membership recruitment efforts in Mississippi and Alabama. We are attempting to identify law schools or universities in Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee that will assist or share data on the judiciary in these states.

### Human Trafficking and Immigration Initiatives Collaboration



Judge Lobrano, Judge John Hecht, and Judge Betty Williams.

In May 2014, NAWJ District 6 Board member Judge Joy Cossich Lobrano and a team of individuals from Louisiana working in the areas of human trafficking and immigration traveled to Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens to collaborate with judges, district attorneys, service providers and others working at each Human Trafficking Courts in the three boroughs and working on immigration issues. NAWJ District 2 Board Member Judge Betty Williams

## DISTRICT NEWS

and Courtney Bryan of Center for Court Innovation assisted in organizing meetings and collaborative efforts. Judge Williams arranged for Judge Lobrano to observe Judge John Hecht of the Brooklyn Kings County Criminal Court while presiding over his Human Trafficking Court and Prostitution Preventions Program. Various services providers including STAR, SAVI, EPIC, GEMS program, and RESTORE were in court.

A big thanks is in order to all the NAWJ's members and affiliates who assisted with connecting and networking the Louisiana collaborative team with individuals working with human trafficking courts and victims of human trafficking in the New York City area. Also, Judge Lobrano, NAWJ District 6 Board Member, and Judge Williams, District 2 Board Member, had a collaborative meeting to discuss the many great NAWJ programs, initiatives, and collaboration that are underway in District 2 and to assist in the development of such programs in District 6. Much thanks to Judge Williams for her time as a NAWJ Board member in assisting District 2.

### Initiatives and Events for 2015

Planning has begun for various programs for 2015 including the following:

- 1) Reaching out to law schools in Louisiana to host receptions for local judges and woman law students to discuss careers in the judiciary and answer questions in small group;
- 2) Working with undergraduates women who are majoring in pre-law at Louisiana universities and with professors to organize panel discussions to encourage women students to consider pursuing careers in the law and judiciary;
- 3) Utilizing the FAIRGirls training to develop programs in high schools in conjunction with Eden House and other human trafficking service providers and agencies to educate young men and women on the issues of human trafficking so that they do not become a victim of human trafficking;
- 4) Utilizing the NAWJ's Human Trafficking Committee's materials and documents to assist and educate judges in District 6; and
- 5) Utilizing the resources of the NAWJ's Immigration Committee and Human Trafficking Committee to develop initiatives with respect to human trafficking and immigration issues and to collaborate with law schools that are developing Immigration and Human Trafficking law clinics and courts that are developing specialized courts.

## DISTRICT SEVEN (MI,OH,WV)



Judge Margaret Clark, center, with IAWJ Past President Justice Eusebia Nicholas Munuo of Tanzania (left) and Judge Clark's popular husband (right) at the 2010 NAWJ Annual Conference in San Francisco.

Longtime NAWJ member, and many times District Director, **Judge Margaret Clark, retired at the end of November, 2014** after 32 years on the bench, most recently at Brown County Probate/Juvenile Court.

The District continues to present MentorJet programs, maintained alive and well by returning District Judge Kay Hansen of Michigan. Mentor Jet events were organized by her in 2014 at Wayne State, Thomas M. Cooley College of Law, University of Michigan and Michigan State, in February, March, April, June, October (twice!) and November.

### MentorJet - Thomas M Cooley Law School, Auburn Hills



On June 18, 2014, the Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Auburn Hills campus hosted a MentorJet speed networking program co-sponsored by NAWJ. Judge Katherine Hansen, 36th District Court, served as the Judicial Host for the event. In addition to the Cooley law student participants, 19 students from the Council for Legal Education Opportunities also participated. The Jewish Law Students Association, The Chaldean Law Students Association, The Black Law Students Association, The Hispanic & Latino Law Students, The Criminal Law Society, The Health Care Law Society, and the Cooley Outlaws together with the Career and Professional Development Department were additional co-sponsors. I cannot stress enough the importance of our students networking with members of our legal community while still studying," said Lisa Halushka, acting Associate Dean and Professor at Cooley Law School's Auburn Hills campus. "This event gives our students the unique experience to develop strong networking skills that will carry them from the classroom to the profession."



Top Row : Joseph M. Golden, Sean Johnson, J.D., Bryan R. Sherer, Bari Blake Wood, Bryant M. Frank, Eirka Lorraine Davis. Next Row: Susan Benedict, Coryelle Christie, Jeffrey May, Channelle Kizzy-White. Next Row: Stacie Farina, Robyn Lederman, Carol M. Hogan, LaToya McBean, Mariell R. McLatcher. Bottom Row: Hon. Katherine Hansen, Hon. Joseph Farah, Hon. Jodi Debbrecht Switalski, Hon. Cynthia Thomas Walker.



### MentorJet - Thomas M Cooley Law School, Lansing

October 1, 2014, NAWJ members Judges Michelle Rick and Katherine Hansen, along with more than 20 lawyers participated in presenting MentorJet. Former Michigan State Bar President, and Associate Dean of Cooley's Career and Professional Development, Charles R. Toy introduced the program. The event was followed by a reception.



### MentorJet – Michigan State University School of Law



Michigan State University School of Law hosted MentorJet on November 6, 2014. Nearly 20 judges and lawyers, and more than two dozen students, participated in the event. NAWJ Members Judge Michelle Rick and Judge Katherine Hansen were among those offering the law students insights into the practice of law.

### MentorJet – University of Detroit Mercy School of Law



The University of Detroit Mercy School of Law hosted MentorJet on November 12, 2014. The event was rescheduled from an earlier autumn evening, due to what Assistant Dean Markeisha Miner termed, “storm-a-geddon!” NAWJ Members Judges Michelle Rick and Susan Moiseev (Retired) joined District Seven Director Judge Katherine Hansen and more than other 20 lawyers and judges to offer insights into the legal profession to more than 30 law students. Joining the mentors and students for the photo was the new dean of the law school, Dean Phyllis L. Crocker.

### MentorJet – University of Michigan Law School



NAWJ Member Judge Susan Moiseev (Retired), participated in MentorJet at the University of Michigan Law School. Among other mentors joining Judge Moiseev were State Bar of Michigan President Tom Rombach, and State Bar of Michigan Executive Director, Janet Welch (a UM Law alumna). NAWJ Member Judge Laura Mack, Chief Judge of the 29th District Court in Wayne Michigan, also joined in participation.



### DISTRICT EIGHT (IL,IN,KY)

#### Diamond in the Rough Program in East St. Louis



Judge Laninya Cason organized a superb program, "Diamonds in the Rough," for middle school girls in East St. Louis. The program provided the girls with a full day of interaction with role models, including former Olympian, Jackie Joyner Kersee Program (pictured below right, opposite Judge Cason). In photo above, NAWJ Past President Judge Brenda Loftin (Retired) appears in the front row, second from right. Judge Cason is now District 8 Director.



District Director Judge Ann Breen-Greco has been involved in the planning for the NAWJ Midyear to be held in Chicago April 23 and 24, 2015. Past ABA President Laurel Bellows has been confirmed as the Keynote Speaker, also to feature Cheryl Brown Henderson. In addition to educational panels there will be time to enjoy social activities in Chicago.

**Judges Sophia Hall and Breen-Greco** attended the Illinois Judicial Council (IJC) Annual Dinner, which was also a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act. Circuit Court Judge William Hooks was sworn in as the Chair of the IJC. Judge Hooks has established a new IJC committee, the Administrative Law Judges Committee, and has asked Judge Breen-Greco to be its first Chair.

#### How You Can Help Stop Sex Trafficking



Former District Director Judge Cheryl Cesario was recognized for her work by Cook County Clerk of the Circuit Court, Dorothy Brown. Judge Sophia Hall was also recognized but was unable to attend the program.

Members presented a very successful program, "How You Can Help Stop Sex Trafficking," in partnership with the Chicago Bar Association's Human Rights Committee. Attorney Laurel Bellows, Past President of the ABA, moderated the program and member Judge Virginia Kendall spoke as panelist, along with Katherine Kaufka Walts, Director of the Loyola University's Center for the Human Rights of Children; Kaethe Morris Hoffer, Legal and Deputy Executive Director, Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation. Despite a very stormy day, over 50 people attended in person, which did not include those participating by webinar.

#### Judge Ann Breen-Greco Wins ABA's Judicial Division Vice Chair Election

At the ABA's Annual Meeting in Boston the Judicial Division's National Conference of the Administrative Law Judiciary (NCALJ) elected Judge Ann Breen-Greco, NAWJ District 8 Director and NAWJ 2015 Midyear Meeting Local Planning Chair, to be their nominee for Judicial Division's Vice Chair. In tradition, Judge Breen-Greco will automatically move up to Judicial Division Chair-Elect and Chair. She will be the first state administrative law judge to become Judicial Division Chair. A number of NAWJ members were there to celebrate with Judge Breen-Greco, including Judges Kathleen Mulligan, Mary Kelly (both of whom are on the NCALJ Executive Committee and on the NAWJ Administrative judiciary Committee), Sandra Robinson, Cheryl Cesario, Sophia Hall, Marcella Holland, Julie Weatherly, and Toni Clarke.

### Baker & McKenzie Host Human Trafficking Program



L-R: Conference planning committee members Ngozi Okorafor (Black Women Lawyers Association); Judge Ann Breen-Greco (NAWJ to the ABA Human Trafficking Task Force); Annemarie Kill (ISBA Standing Committee on Women and the Law Committee); Bob Deignan (Baker & McKenzie); Yolaine Dauphin (Illinois State Bar Association, Administrative Law Committee, and conference planner); Judge Marilyn Johnson (speaker); Sharon Eisman (Chicago Bar Association Alliance for Women-Women's Bar Association of Illinois Task Force); Carol Casey (Cook County Public Guardian's Office); Mary Petrichius (ISBA Standing Committee on Women and the Law Committee).

Bob Deignan of Baker & McKenzie, pictured in the center, hosted an all-day human trafficking program, of which NAWJ the District was a co-sponsor, with the Illinois State Bar Association Administrative (ISBA) Law Section, Illinois Association of Administrative Law Judges, Illinois Judicial Council, Human Trafficking Task Force of the American Bar Association, Black Women Lawyers' Association of Greater Chicago, Inc., Chicago Bar Association Alliance for Women, Chinese American Bar Association of Greater Chicago, Cook County Bar Association, Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois, National Bar Association Region VII, Puerto Rican Bar Association of Illinois, Women's Bar Association of Illinois, ISBA Child Law Section, ISBA Human Rights Section, ISBA International & Immigration Law Section, ISBA Standing Committee on Government Lawyers, ISBA Standing Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities & the Law, ISBA Standing Committee on Women and the Law.

Member Judge Virginia Kendall was the keynote speaker. Additional featured speakers included Victor Boutros of the Department of Justice, Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez, Salvation Army Promise Program Director, and Professor Jodi Raphael, a prominent local writer and speaker on trafficking and sexual assault. The audience included judges, lawyers, social workers, and service providers. The presentations contained actual footage and phone recordings of human trafficking crimes and drawings from survivors, which were graphic and painful. The program was so popular that there was a waiting list and there are plans to repeat this Spring 2015. Many in the audience volunteered to work with service providers for the survivors.

### "The Johns" Performance Portrays Prostitution



NAWJ's Vice President of Districts, Judge Breen-Greco, was the guest speaker at a performance of the "The Johns," a play written by playwright Mary Bonnett, shown here (far right) with Judge Breen-Greco. Ms. Bonnett writes plays which graphically portray the horrors of human trafficking and prostitution. Judge Breen-Greco discussed NAWJ's human trafficking work in training judges and raising public awareness.

The District held a very successful outreach program with **John Marshall Law School** student representatives of student organizations. District members attended the Women's Bar Association of Illinois reception to celebrate history: **Judge Diane Pamela Wood** became the first female Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and **Justice Rita Garman** became only the second female Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court.

### DISTRICT NINE (IA, MO, WI)

Judge Angela Turner Quigless was voted Chief Judge of Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District for one year term beginning July 1, 2014.

#### The Infinity Project



Judge Diana Murphy addressing the Infinity panel of judges and their daughters.

District 9 continues to work with the Infinity Project in co-sponsoring an Annual CLE and Summit. This year the CLE and Summit was held in Omaha, Nebraska in conjunction with the Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference. On August 6, 2014, a panel discussion entitled "What I've Learned from my Daughter" was moderated by Dean Marianne Culhane of the Creighton Law School. The panel, made up of federal judges and their daughters who are attorneys, discussed their reflections on gender and the legal profession.





The Diana Murphy Legacy Award was presented to NAWJ member U.S. Magistrate Judge Celeste Bremer (both pictured above, Judge Bremer right.). This award recognizes individuals who have made a significant impact in the legal profession consistent with the mission of the Infinity Project. The award is named after and honors the first woman judge on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. The Summit was held on August 7, 2014 and included a presentation by Tulane Professor and NAWJ member Professor Sally Kenney entitled “WTF (Where are the Females?): Efforts to Increase Gender Diversity on the Bench.”

### Magistrate Judge Celeste Bremer Awarded The Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice



Judge Celeste Bremer receiving the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice. (L-R) Director of the Iowa Department of Human Rights San Wong, Iowa Governor Terry Branstad, Judge Bremer, Iowa Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds.

The Iowa Commission on the Status of Women awarded the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice to United States Magistrate Judge Celeste Bremer at its annual Women's Equality Day event on August 23, 2014 at the Iowa Historical Building in Des Moines. This award recognizes and honors the accomplishments of Cristine Wilson, the first chair of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women. First appointed to the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women in 1969, Ms. Wilson was a key force in the passage of legislation that established the Commission as a statutory agency in 1972. During her service as chair, major legislation was passed that reduced sex discrimination and enhanced women's rights. Ms. Wilson's efforts were unceasing and

her commitment was exemplary. The Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice is awarded selectively to an individual who has made significant contributions to the principles of equality and justice in the state of Iowa.

St. Louis County Circuit Court Judges Colleen Dolan, Carolyn Whittington and Ellen Levy Siwak **were certified as Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource Fellows.** Missouri Supreme Court Justice Zel Fisher presented them with certificates at the St. Louis County Courthouse on August 28, 2014.

### Michelle “Miki” McGovern Named Acting Workers’ Compensation Commissioner



Iowa Governor Terry Branstad named Michelle “Miki” McGovern the acting Workers' Compensation Commissioner on September 8, 2014. She has served as an Iowa Workers' Compensation Deputy Commissioner for the past 26 years, and will serve as acting Commissioner until a permanent commissioner is named.

**Hon. Dustria “Dusti” Relph of Corydon,** Iowa was appointed by Iowa Governor Branstad as a District Court Judge for the Fifth Judicial District of Iowa.

## DISTRICT TEN (KS,MN,ND,SD)

### KANSAS

Kansas members have been busy working on the Informed Voters-Fair Judges Project. Presentations have been made at meetings of the various bar associations; Rotary Clubs; the Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence; Friends for Credit; Association of Entrepreneurs and at many college campuses. **Judge Cheryl Kingfisher and Judge Evelyn Wilson appeared on a public television program, “I’ve Got Issues,”** to talk about the importance of judicial impartiality and the Informed Voters Project. The program aired statewide before Election Day.

### MINNESOTA

Hamline University School of Law in Saint Paul was the host site of the **8th Annual Girl Scout Law Day** on November 1, 2014. The event provided girls in grades 3-5 with an empowering perspective on careers in the law through exceptional speakers, activities, and a mock trial. Topics included a day in the life of a police officer, how a bill becomes a law, and careers in law. Assisting members of the judiciary were Hon. Jill Flaskamp Halbrooks with the Minnesota Court of Appeals.

**Retirements:** Hon. Terri Stoneburner (Minnesota Court of Appeals); Hon. Marilyn B. Rosenbaum (4th Judicial District); Hon. Ann Alton (4th Judicial District); Hon. Janet Poston (4th Judicial District); Hon. Linda Titus (5th Judicial District). **Appointments:** Hon. Diane Bratvold and Hon. Hilary Caliquiri both of the 4th Judicial District. On the election side of things at attorney named John Hancock has filed against Justice Wilhelmina Wright (Supreme Court). **A challenge has also been filed for Judge Jane Ranum's seat in the 4th Judicial District.** In the 5th Judicial District **Judge Christina Wietzeme (new appointee) is**



**challenged** and in the 10th Judicial District Judge Susan Miles is challenged. Judge Miles is a member of NAWJ.

Minnesota **Chief Justice Lorie Gildea recently accepted a 2014 State Government Innovation Award** from the Minnesota Judicial Branch's ecCourtMN Initiative. **Justice Wilhelmina Wright** was also recognized as one of 84 exceptional women leaders making remarkable contributions to building the Twin Cities. Justice Wright is a member of NAWJ.

#### NORTH DAKOTA

Hon. Stacy Louser was sworn in as a District Judge in the North Central Judicial District in Minot, ND, on July 18, 2014. Prior to joining the bench, Judge Louser was in private practice in Minot where she focused her practice on family law and business related law. She is a qualified mediator, parenting investigator, and guardian ad litem. Before becoming an attorney, she was an occupational therapist.

### DISTRICT ELEVEN (AR,OK,TX)

**Former District Director Judge Orlinda Naranjo of the 419th District Court and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor**



Judge Orlinda Naranjo with Justice Sonia Sotomayor at the NAWJ 2014 Annual Conference in San Diego.

The District hosted a cocktail reception on Monday September 8, 2014 at the Annual Texas Judicial conference in Fort Worth held at the Omni Hotel. Over 36 judges attended and had a great time of networking. I showcased the different Color of Justice programs held by our District in the past years and showed the Color of Justice video to the attendees. Attendees were given information on the Informed Voters-Fair Judges Project.

### DISTRICT TWELVE (AZ,CO,NM,UT,WY)

**District Director Hon. Terry Fox**



Judge Terry Fox sits on the Colorado Court of Appeals, having been sworn in on January 7, 2011, following her September 2, 2010 appointment. From 2004-2010, she served as an assistant U.S. Attorney in Colorado, working as trial counsel to federal agencies and specializing in environmental, constitutional, and other civil

matters. In addition to her legal duties, Judge Fox served on the U.S. Attorney's Advisory Council and the Diversity Committee. Before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, Judge Fox was an attorney with the Colorado Attorney General's Office, an associate with the law firm of Holland & Hart (where she practiced Environmental Law), and a clerk for Justice Craig Enoch on the Texas Supreme Court. Judge Fox served as the Colorado Director for the National Association of Women Judges and now serves as a District Director. Her community service includes the Colorado Supreme Court's Board of Law Examiners, and membership in the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association, which recognized her in 2006 with its Chris Miranda Outstanding Lawyer Award, and in 1997 with its Outstanding Young Lawyer Award. Judge Fox is a long time member and former board member of the Colorado Women's Bar Association (CWBA). She previously served on Colorado Supreme Court's Attorney Regulation Committee. In 2002 she was selected as a Marshall Memorial Fellow which allowed her to travel with other emerging American leaders to five countries in Europe. In 1989, she earned her bachelor's degree from the Colorado School of Mines in Chemical Engineering and Petroleum Refining, and her law degree in 1993 in Houston, Texas. Judge Fox is a 1985 graduate of Brighton High School in Brighton, Colorado.

#### District Leaders Screen "Amazonian Justice Boat"

September 8, 2014 in Vail, Colorado, during Colorado's Judicial Conference, Judge Karen Ashby, NAWJ's state chair for Colorado, and District Director Judge Terry Fox hosted a NAWJ Breakfast Break: screening Amazonian Justice Boat at the Vail Conference Center. The video documents a female judge and her team as they provide legal and health services to communities along the Amazon River that are reachable only by boat.

#### Appointments

The ten (10) female appointments to Colorado's Bench during late 2013 and early 2014 include:

- Judge Karen M. Ashby – sworn in 12/2/2013 to the Colorado Court of Appeals
- Candace C. Gerdes – sworn in on 1/3/14 to Colorado's 2nd Judicial District
- Emily E. Anderson – sworn in on 2/3/14 to Colorado's 17th Judicial District
- Tawna J. Holmstedt – sworn in on 2/7/14 to Colorado's 13th Judicial District County Court
- Ray Ann Brammer – sworn in on 4/30/14 to Colorado's 13th Judicial District County Court
- Karen L. Brody – sworn in on 5/2/14 to Colorado's 2nd Judicial District Court
- Kimbra L. Killin – sworn in on 6/2/14 to Colorado's 13th Judicial District County Court
- Tera N. Neugebauer – sworn in on 6/16/14 – to Colorado's 13th Judicial District County Court
- Beth Ann Faragher – sworn in on 7/1/14 to the Denver County Court
- Natalie T. Chase – sworn in on 7/1/14 to Colorado's 18th Judicial District Court
- Bonnie McLean, in Colorado's 18th Judicial District will be sworn in after 1/13/15

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## DISTRICT NEWS

• Kimberly Jo Karn, in Colorado's 10th Judicial District will be sworn in after 12/31/14  
*Judge Fox extended invitations to all of these new judges to join the NAWJ.*

### Colorado Women's Bar Association's "Raising the Bar"

Several NAWJ Members, including Judge Karen Ashby and Judge Terry Fox attended the Colorado Women's Bar Association's "Raising the Bar" event. The event supports the CWBA Foundation, the non-profit arm of the CWBA, and honors notable women lawyers. This year, the event focused on honoring female law professors.

## DISTRICT THIRTEEN (AK,HI,ID,MT,OR,WA)



**Alaska Color of Justice** also hosted a booth at the University of Alaska Law School fair on **Constitution Day**, September 17, 2014. There was a running power point at the booth titled "A Zillion Things you can do with a Law Degree."

The fall is always a busy time for the District and the fall of 2014 was no exception. On October 10-11, 2014, Washington state held its **first Success Inside and Out Pre-Release Conference at Mission Creek Correctional Center for Women**. The Washington program is modeled after Alaska's successful Success Inside and Out Conference. In addition to the prison administration at Mission Creek, the program's other primary partner is the Washington State Supreme Court's Gender and Justice Commission.

On October 24, 2014, **the Fifth Annual Judicial Officer and Law Student** reception was held in Seattle, Washington. The host school and scholarship recipients were from Seattle University Law School. A \$550 NAWJ scholarship was awarded to a law student from Seattle University.

From November 17-18, 2014, Alaska hosted a *Color of Justice* program at Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka, Alaska. Mt. Edgecumbe High School is a public boarding school operated by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. Mt. Edgecumbe provides students an opportunity to acquire a traditional education unavailable in rural Alaska. Alaskan native students comprise seventy nine percent of the student population and sixty five percent of students meet federal guidelines for free and reduced lunches. Eighty four percent of 2013 graduates were accepted into a post-secondary university or training program. Alaskan Judges, attorneys and northwest law school professors will conduct workshops on the law and legal careers. The students loved the program.

## Con't.

Hon. Judith McConnell  
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## DISTRICT FOURTEEN (CA,NV)

The Hon. Marilyn J. Teeter (JD, 1977 Golden Gate University School of Law) has retired from the federal government after 35 years as an Immigration Judge. She was an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Administrative Judge from 1979 to 1997, and a U.S. Immigration Judge from 1997 to 2014. She has been a lifetime member of the NAWJ since 1992.

### San Diego Commissioner Terrie Eileen Roberts

While supporting the San Diego Conference Planning Committee toward a fantastic conference, San Diego Superior Court Commission Terrie Roberts was honored with several awards and commendations. On Sunday, July 13, 2014, I was honored with the following Awards/Commendations: 1) the President's Call to Service Award for volunteer service from President Obama and presented by Lorraine Bowman at the Fourth Annual Project Confidence Awards Ceremony; 2) a Special Commendation from Councilmember Myrtle Cole for service to the San Diego community and commitment to empower, encourage and inspire our youth; 3) a Special Commendation from Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer for service to the San Diego High School Mock Trial Program and the Kids and Teens in Court Program, and 22 years of promoting education in San Diego; and 4) a Certificate of Commendation from County Supervisor Ron Roberts.

### Taiwan High Court Judge Gisele Chyi Chiu Visits the San Diego Superior Court



Judge Tamila E. Ipema invited Judge Gisele Chyi Chiu of Taiwan High Court to visit the San Diego Superior Court on July 21, 2014. Both Judges Dave Danielson and Ipema welcomed Judge Chiu and provided her with an introduction to California Court and legal system. Judge Chiu observed civil harassment and elder abuse cases, and since Taiwan does not have a jury system, she particularly appreciated Judge Randa Trapp inviting her to observe jury selection in her civil court. Judge Chiu also met several Civil Judges at the San Diego Superior Court including Judges Joel Pressman, Kevin Enright, and Timothy Taylor. She appreciated the hospitality afforded her, and the San Diego judicial community felt honored by her visit.

### NAWJ WELCOMES GEICO AS OUR NEWEST LANDMARK SPONSOR

Last year GEICO joined NAWJ in sponsoring its 2014 Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. They are continuing their relationship with NAWJ as a Silver Landmark Sponsor.

Part of the NAWJ and GEICO partnership will provide insurance discounts to NAWJ members. Contact GEICO for a free quote on auto insurance to see how much you could be saving. And don't forget to mention your NAWJ affiliation, you could qualify for an exclusive member savings opportunity. Visit [www.geico.com/disc/nawj](http://www.geico.com/disc/nawj) or call 1-800-368-2734 for your free rate quote. GEICO can also help you find great rates on homeowners, renters, motorcycle insurance, and more!





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Thank you to all of those who have contributed since April, 2014:

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## WOMEN IN PRISON - ALASKA

### Committee Calls for a National Agenda for Women in Detention

NAWJ Women in Prison Committee members joined the Arthur Liman Public Interest Program, led by fellow member Professor Judith Resnik, on a U.S. Senate Judiciary subcommittee report “The State of Civil and Human Rights in the United States: Hearing Before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Human Rights December 9, 2014 - Women in Detention: The Need for a National Agenda. “

The report was submitted to the record on December 8, 2014 by the Arthur Liman Public Interest Program at Yale Law School: Johanna Kalb, Director and Visiting Associate Professor of Law; NAWJ Member Judith Resnik, Arthur Liman Professor of Law; and Megan Quattlebaum, Senior Liman Fellow in Residence. The Statement is a reflection of many people additionally NAWJ Past Presidents Judge Brenda Murray, Chief Justice Dana Fabe, Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, Judge Gladys Kessler and longtime members and friends Nan Aron, Hon. Nancy Gertner, and Hon. Patricia M. Wald.

Background. On September 3, 2014, eleven U.S. Senators wrote to the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Director, Charles E. Samuels, Jr., raising concerns about BOP’s plan to change the use of the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) in Danbury, Connecticut from a women-only facility to a facility devoted primarily to men. Representatives of the Committee had an opportunity to meet with members of Senator Barbara Mikulski’s staff on September 24, 2014, to describe the problems with the treatment of women in the federal system and ask that Senator Mikulski, then Chair of Senate Appropriations, take an interest in the situation. NAWJ Past President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, who attended the meeting, sent a follow-up letter that the staffers requested. On November 6, 2013, Director Samuels called the Women in Prison Committee and informed NAWJ that there would continue to be a 200-bed secured facility at Danbury with all existing services and program; a new 50-bed facility in Brooklyn, New York; and a committee of wardens to advise on best practices for treating women.

Questions surfaced due to the lack of progress in keeping federal space in the northeast. In 2012, while following the conditions of women in prison, NAWJ’s Women in Prison Committee learned of BOP’s request for operating funds to create a new large women’s prison in Aliceville, Alabama. The proposed isolated location would make family visits difficult for inmates outside of the region.

“Dislocation and Relocation: Women in the Federal Prison System and Repurposing FCI Danbury for Men,” a report by Professor Resnik and the Liman Program details the important role that the Danbury facility plays in serving incarcerated women (and their families) who reside in the Northeast, and the benefits of services that promote successful re-entry back to their communities.

NAWJ’s Women in Prison Committee followed the letter to BOP Director Samuels by making the case to more members of Congress, BOP administrators who oversee women offenders, and the Deputy Attorney General’s Office. Committee members continue to press legislators and prison officials for acceptable conditions for incarcerated women in prison.

## ALASKA

### Hiland Mountain Correctional Center

The Hiland Mountain Correctional Center in Alaska held its Ninth Annual Success Inside and Out conference on October 25, 2014. The women who participated were within a year of release and will had a myriad of workshops to choose from that helped them prepare for their transition to life outside of prison. Over 70 professionals from the community offered their time and expertise to provide practical guidance on finding jobs, housing, handling finances, education, transportation and maintaining personal health. During lunch a fashion show will highlight appropriate dress in the workplace. Approximately 100 women scheduled for release within the next year participated.

## COLORADO

### Denver Women’s Correctional Facility Christmas Book Drive

The *Storybook Project* provides children’s books to incarcerated women who then record themselves reading the books for their children. The children receive the book and the recording as a way to stay connected to their mothers in prison. Mothers who participate in the *Storybook Project* help to offset the emotional damage that children can experience as a result of prolonged separation from their mothers. The simple act of maintaining an everyday ritual, like reading together, can help mother and child maintain a bond during the parent’s incarceration.

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Brenda Loftin  
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Sheila Woods-Skipper  
Sue Pai Yang

Last year, judges, justices, clerks, and court staff donated over 200 books to women incarcerated in the Denver Women's Correctional Facility. Members collaborated with the prison's librarian, who helped the women make the recordings and send the book and recording to their children. In 2014, the group collected over 250 books to help make the holidays a little brighter for children of incarcerated women in Colorado.

### MARYLAND

Women in Prison Committee co-chair Judge Brenda Murray continues to organize Book Clubs and Writing Sessions at Maryland's women prison. Recently, NAWJ Past President Judge Vanessa Ruiz led the discussion of Justice Sotomayor's book *My Beloved World*.

### NEW YORK

#### NAWJ District Two 2014 Annual Dinner Honors WIPC Stalwarts



On June 16, 2014, the New York Chapter NAWJ Annual Dinner, coordinated by President Darcel Clark, was held at Battery Garden, New York City. Judge Cheryl Gonzales and Justice Laura Jacobson were honored for their outstanding work as members of the Women in Prison Committee. Justice Jacobson and Judge Gonzales have been active NYNAWJ and WIPC members since December 2000 when the first Holiday Program was held at Bayview Correctional Facility for

Women. Bayview closed following Hurricane Sandy in 2013. **THIS HOLIDAY PROGRAM WAS THE MODEL FOR NAWJ SUCCESS INSIDE AND OUT**, however, Justice Debra James, during her tenure as NY NAWJ WIPC Chair **renamed the NY Holiday Program "Beyond the Bars Holiday Project"**. Justice Laura Jacobson and Judge Cheryl Gonzales have organized and through their efforts provided incarcerated women in New York State the following items: personal tote bags, women clothing, knitting yarn, books and supplies for the nursery, library books, gift bags and holiday toys, games and movie passes for incarcerated women and their children and grandchildren.

The two honored judges have for thirteen (13) years contributed their time, made financial contributions and transported all NAWJ contributions listed above and volunteer workshop participants to NY State Women Correctional facilities. WIPC Chair Judge Gonzales has supported the Bard College Initiative and wrote letters of support for women in prison issues and legislation. **THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS** to Judge Cheryl Gonzales and Justice Laura Jacobson for your commitment to women in prison.

#### Bard Prison Initiative Update

On August 4, 2014, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annuci acknowledged and expressed gratitude for the NAWJ's letters of support regarding higher education programs in New York State correctional facilities.

Commissioner Annuci's letter was in response to letters from NAWJ New York Judges to **Governor Andrew M. Cuomo following a February 19, 2014 New York Times editorial "Governor Cuomo's Bold Step on Prison Education" -- "On Sunday (2/16/14) ...announcing new financing for college classes in ten (10) New York State prisons."** Max Kenner, Executive Director of the Bard Prison Initiative, stated, "For years, the National Association of Women Judges has been an energetic advocate of real criminal justice reform, including the restoration of college access in American prisons. In particular, NAWJ and Judge Betty Williams have been especially engaged in the work of the Bard Prison Initiative at Bard College. From the establishment of Bard's college programs for incarcerated women to helping locate key voices of support, women judges have played an important role in this sensible, cost-effective, and moral answer to the crisis of mass incarceration. If real reform is going to happen, judges and district attorneys must both be involved. NAWJ's work in this area is an example of how, together, judges can bring about real reform. **There are more than thirty (30) women participating in the Bard College Initiative at Taconic Correctional Facility.**



## WOMEN IN PRISON - PHILADELPHIA

### Workshops at Taconic Correctional Facility for Women

On September 26, 2014 Judge Cheryl Gonzales facilitated a **Housing Re-Entry Workshop** at Taconic Correctional Facility. Volunteer Legal Aid Society housing attorneys Stephen Myers and Heidi Cain presented to an audience of approximately sixty (60) women and Taconic staff members. The workshop addressed the following re-entry issues: Section 8 federal subsidized housing; New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and Housing and Preservation Department (HPD) public housing; documentation required to appeal adverse decisions; the private housing process and Federal Housing Exclusion Rules.

A pamphlet entitled **"Because Family Matters"** from the Family Re-Entry Pilot Program was provided to the women following a question and answer period. The attorneys also provided information regarding **Certificates of Relief from Disabilities, Certificates of Good Conduct and Conditional Sealing**. The attorneys were not able to address questions related to upstate housing challenges. Judges Cheryl Gonzales and Betty J. Williams will follow up with the District 2 State Chair, Judge E. Jeanette Ogden to provide the requested information. The women engaged Judge Gonzales, Judge Williams and the attorneys following the formal presentation with questions and thanked the New York Women in Prison Committee and attorneys. Workshops **"Collateral Consequences of a Criminal Conviction"** and **"Parole"** were requested as well as tote bags.

**Judges Ann O'Shea and Emily Olshansky, and Susan Danoff** are developing a pamphlet for publication entitled, **"Maintaining Parental Rights While Incarcerated"** to provide information for incarcerated persons. Justice Olshansky will be including an article in the next Counterbalance. **The pamphlet and a one (1) page information sheet will be created for all incarcerated persons and will be shared with all NAWJ Districts.**

Taconic Correctional Facility (TCF) for women is a medium security women's prison in Bedford Hills, New York. New York State Correctional facility houses three hundred forty-eight (348) women with a total capacity of approximately four hundred (400) women.

### PHILADELPHIA

#### NAWJ Pennsylvania Book Drive



The NAWJ Women in Prison Committee of Philadelphia organized a book drive for the women at the State Correctional Institution in Muncy, PA, to coincide with the semi-annual State Trial Judge's Conference in July, 2014. Coincidentally, the prison was initiating a new program for re-entry services to use fiction and non-fiction literature to "encourage multicultural awareness, personal growth, healthy human development and spirituality." The prison even compiled a list of books as proposed reading material for the women. So the timing was perfect for the project. It was a grand success. When judges were asked beforehand to bring two or three books (considering several hundred judges would be in attendance), many judges responded asking if they could bring more and the prison was more than happy to pick up the donated books from the conference site. Over ten boxes containing hundreds of books were collected and many judges were interested in continuing the project. Plans are underway for replicating the project in county facilities.

### The IOWA Book Club

NAWJ Iowa announces a Book Club in support

of the women at the

### Iowa Correctional Institute for Women

Contact Judge Donna L. Paulsen for more information  
[thedonna.paulsen@gmail.com](mailto:thedonna.paulsen@gmail.com)

### Reproductive Injustice:

The State of Reproductive Health Care  
for Women in New York State Prisons



### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



A report of the Women in Prison Project  
of the Correctional Association of New York

## PROFILES IN STEWARDSHIP: MEET NAWJ'S RESOURCE BOARD

The NAWJ Resource Board is composed of leaders in their field. The members work with NAWJ members and staff to raise judicial awareness about subjects of mutual interest, offer advice regarding education projects, and provide and cultivate crucial professional and financial support for the organization as it works towards its mission.

This *Counterbalance* will introduce its dynamic members.



### **VICTORIA CASHMAN**

Victoria S. Cashman has a consulting practice, Cashman & Associates, which focuses on the innovative use of technology in courts. She is a former executive at LexisNexis in Dayton, Ohio and she continues to serve as Senior Advisor at LexisNexis.

In furtherance of Ms. Cashman's avid interest in the rule of law, she has been involved with numerous organizations focused on the improvement of the administration of justice. She is active in the ABA Judicial Division, several of her articles have appeared in *Judges Journal* and *State Court Journal*, and she was editor of the ABA's State Court Organization Profile Series and principal author of a Monograph on Drug Court Management Information Systems published by the U.S. Department of Justice. Ms. Cashman has also been an enthusiastic Board member of the Council for Court Excellence in Washington, DC since 1989. She was a founding Chair of the Forum on the Advancement of Court Technology (FACT).

Ms. Cashman has longstanding involvement with NAWJ and was a founding Chair of the NAWJ Resource Board. In 1996, Ms. Cashman received NAWJ's Florence K. Murray Award which is presented to a non-judge who, by example or otherwise, has influenced women to pursue legal careers, opened doors for women attorneys, or advanced opportunities for women within the legal profession. Ms. Cashman's development efforts sparked several NAWJ member-led projects including Color of Justice programs which encourage teenagers to consider careers

in law and judging. Ms. Cashman earned her B.A. from Ohio University and her M.A. from Saint Louis University



### **JAMIE ZYSK ISANI**

Jamie Zysk Isani is a Partner in the Miami office of Hunton & Williams, where she belongs to the commercial litigation practice group. Her practice focuses on business litigation, appellate advocacy, advertising litigation, multidistrict class action litigation, financial services litigation,

and First Amendment and free speech litigation. Her work has included representing the world's leading health information companies in First Amendment challenges to state statutes at the trial and appellate levels, Fortune 50 banks in multiple class actions challenging practices and disclosures relating to posting of debit-card transactions, and developers against fraud and conspiracy claims related to a multibillion-dollar hotel and casino development. In addition, Attorney Isani has authored several publications regarding the application of the First Amendment to corporate entities.

Attorney Isani has received frequent recognition for her excellent lawyering skills. She has been named a "Rising Star" by the *Daily Business Review*, a "Top Lawyer" by the *Florida Super Lawyer*, the "Most Effective First Amendment Lawyer" by the *Daily Business Review*, and, for numerous years in a row, as one of the "Top Up and Comers" in Corporate and Business Litigation and a "Rising Star" by *Florida Super Lawyers*.

Attorney Isani became a member of NAWJ in 2012 and immediately became involved in planning NAWJ's 34th Annual Conference in Miami. She spoke on a panel entitled "Multi-District Litigation: Organizing and Managing Expansive Litigation," at the NAWJ Annual Conference in New Orleans in October, 2013. She currently serves as the Resource Board liaison to the NAWJ District Directors. On March 11, 2015, she will be moderating a NAWJ panel entitled "Judicial Appointments of Counsel – Developing Diverse Leadership in the Law" in Miami, Florida. In addition to her involvement with NAWJ's Resource Board, Attorney Isani has participated in the Dade County Bar Association's Young Lawyers E-mentoring Program, for which she served on the Steering Committee from 2003 to 2007. Prior to joining Hunton & Williams, Attorney Isani served as a law clerk for the Honorable Joan A. Lenard, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Attorney Isani earned her B.A., Phi Beta Kappa, from Kalamazoo College, and her J.D., *magna cum laude*, from the University of Michigan Law School where she was awarded a Clarence Darrow Scholarship in recognition of her proven academic capabilities and demonstrated potential to excel in the legal profession.



### **HON. JUDITH S. KAYE**

The Honorable Judith S. Kaye is currently Of Counsel at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, where she focuses her practice on appellate litigation and arbitration. She joined the firm in 2009, after serving for twenty-five years on the New York Court of Appeals and for nearly sixteen of

those years as Chief Judge of the State of New York. Appointed in 1983 by Governor Mario Cuomo, Judge Kaye was the first woman to serve on New York's highest court and the state's longest-serving Chief Judge. During her judicial tenure, Judge Kaye gained a national reputation for her elegant writing and groundbreaking jurisprudence. She is particularly well known for her consistent opposition to the death penalty and supporting the rights of single sex couples to marry and adopt children.

Judge Kaye is also lauded for transforming New York's state court system. She created the Jury Project which led to breakthrough reforms, including expanding the jury pool by abolishing profession-based exemptions; Judge Kaye has herself reported for jury duty on several occasions, though she has never served on a jury. She estab-



## RESOURCE BOARD

The Resource Board of the National Association of Women Judges is committed to supporting NAWJ both financially and programmatically, for the purposes of (a) assuring that NAWJ has sufficient economic and human resources to execute its strategic plan; (b) developing bonds of mutual support and respect between and among Resource Board members and NAWJ members; and (c) promoting the professional advancement and elevating the standing of women from both the bench and bar.

### Chairs:

**Karen Johnson-McKewan, Esq.**  
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

**Elaine Metlin, Esq.**  
Dickstein Shapiro LLP

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**Elizabeth Cabraser, Esq.**  
Lief Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP

**Sharon L. Caffrey, Esq.**  
Duane Morris LLP

**Victoria S. Cashman**  
LexisNexis

**Doris Cheng, Esq.**  
Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

**Kelly M. Dermody, Esq.**  
Lief, Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP

**Nicole E. Erb, Esq.**  
White & Case LLP

**Tia D. Fenton, Esq.**  
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**Andrea Bear Field, Esq.**  
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**Sheila Slocum Hollis, Esq.**  
Duane Morris LLP

**Jamie Zysk Isani, Esq.**  
Hunton & Williams LLP

**Robert M. Kaufman, Esq.**  
Proskauer Rose LLP

**Hon. Judith S. Kaye**  
Skadden, Arps

**Thomas C. Leighton**  
West, a Thomson Reuters Business

**Heather K. McDevitt, Esq.**  
White & Case LLP

**Diane L. McGimsey, Esq.**  
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

**William C.E. Robinson**  
GEICO

**Christina Guerola Sarchio, Esq.**  
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

**Nancy R. Thomas, Esq.**  
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**Erin L. Webb, Esq.**  
Dickstein Shapiro LLP

**Harriet Wesig**  
LexisNexis

**Cathy Winter**  
CourtCall, LLC

## RESOURCE BOARD

lished specialized courts to focus on issues such as drug addiction, domestic violence and mental health issues, an effort that pioneered the field of “problem-solving justice.” Judge Kaye also created the Adoption Now program, which improved procedures for children and families in the foster system, and Children’s Centers, which look after children while family members are in court. These and other reforms under Judge Kaye’s leadership have been widely adopted by other jurisdictions.

Before her appointment to the bench, Judge Kaye practiced law at Sullivan & Cromwell, IBM and Olwine, Connelly, Chase, O’Donnell & Weyher, where she became that firm’s first woman partner. Today, in addition to her work at Skadden, Judge Kaye frequently writes and speaks about varied topics including the legal process, state constitutional law, women in the law, juvenile justice, professional ethics and problem-solving courts, and international arbitration. She has authored over 200 articles. She also has acted as an arbitrator or panel chair in a broad spectrum of international and U.S. commercial disputes. Her current service to the legal profession includes the following roles: Chair of the New York International Arbitration Center, the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, and the Judicial Nomination Commission; Founding Member and Honorary Chair, Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert; Former President, Conference of Chief Justices and Chair of the Board of Directors, National Center for State Courts; and a member of the Boards of Directors of Lincoln Center, the Museum of Jewish Heritage, The International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution, Volunteers of Legal Services, Fund for Modern Courts, the Robert H. Jackson Center, and the American Arbitration Association.

Judge Kaye has received numerous awards recognizing her judicial and scholarly accomplishments including the New York State Bar Association’s inaugural Distinguished Jurist Award, New York State Bar Association’s Gold Medal, the ABA Justice Center John Marshall Award, the National Center for State Courts’ William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence, the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession’s Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Adoption Excellence Award, the *New York Law Journal*’s Lifetime Achievement Award and the New York University School of Law’s Judge Edward Weinfeld Award. In 2014, Judge Kaye was selected by Harvard Law School as an honoree for its inaugural International Women’s Day Exhibition. She earned her B.A. from Barnard College and her L.L.B., *cum laude*, from New York University.



### LINDA LEALI

Linda Leali is an attorney in private practice who formed her own firm, Linda Leali, P.A., in 2012. Her practice focuses on representing debtors, unsecured creditors, and strategic and financial investors in a range of industries and market sectors. She also has experience in mergers and acquisitions and negotiating complex commercial agreements for both domestic and international transactions. Prior to forming her firm, Attorney Leali worked for twelve years for White & Case LLP in the firm’s

Miami office. There, Attorney Leali was a member of the Global Financial Restructuring and Insolvency Practice Group. She worked on numerous large-scale restructuring and chapter 11 cases. While at White & Case, she was part of the team that was honored with a recognition as the “Restructuring Team of the Year” by the International Financial Law Review in 2006.

Attorney Leali is deeply involved with the Florida legal community and serves on the Boards of Directors of Children’s Home, Legal Services of Greater Miami, and the Miami-Dade Chapter of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers. She is also the American Bar Association’s Vice-Chair for the Avoidance Power Subcommittee and a contributing editor to the American Bar Association’s Business Law Section. Additionally, she is an adjunct professor of business law at Florida Atlantic University and has co-authored several articles.

Attorney Leali co-chaired the Friends’ Committee for the NAWJ 2012 Annual Conference and is a co-chair of the Florida State Coordinating Committee of NAWJ’s Informed Voters-Fair Judges Project, which won an Emmy Award in 2014 for the film “Fair and Free” featuring Justice Sandra Day O’Connor. Attorney Leali earned her B.S. from the University of Central Florida and her law degree, magna cum laude, from the University of Miami.



### THOMAS LEIGHTON

Thomas Leighton is a Vice President of Content Acquisition & Government Relations at West, a Thomson Reuters business. Attorney Leighton’s work focuses on developing the strategic direction of, and executing, West’s content acquisition plan. He leads a team responsible for acquiring a wide range of information, including cases, legislative documents, and agency information, in many different formats, from a multitude of government sources at the federal, state, and local level. In addition to gathering all documents necessary to support existing product needs, Attorney Leigh-

ton's team supports new product initiatives such as Litigator, a tool designed to assist practitioners with case development and management.

Attorney Leighton's career is marked by a strong commitment to improving the American judicial system. In addition to his support of NAWJ, Attorney Leighton serves on the Boards of Directors of the American Judicature Society, the Institute of Judicial Administration at New York University Law School, and the American Inns of Court Foundation. He also presides over moot court competitions at the University of Minnesota Law School and William Mitchell College of Law each spring. Attorney Leighton's work was recently recognized by the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks, which in 2012 awarded him the Morgan Thomas Award in recognition of his commitment to enhancing professionalism and supporting the organization's mission of improving the administration of appellate courts by promoting best practices.

Attorney Leighton has long been an integral part of the West team; he joined its editorial department in 1989. He has worked in the cases and statutes editorial departments, and before assuming his current role served as Vice President of Government Relations and Contracts and Vice President of the Government Segment. Prior to joining West, Attorney Leighton served for three years in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the United States Navy and then practiced at a law firm in Minneapolis. Attorney Leighton earned a BA from the University of St. Thomas, and a law degree from the University of Minnesota.



#### **WILLIAM ROBINSON**

From January 2001 until December 2007, William C. E. Robinson ("Bill Robinson") served as senior corporate counsel in the Office of General Counsel for GEICO. Since December 2007, Bill has been Corporate Secretary for GEICO Corporation and its various subsidiaries. In that role, Bill's mission is two-fold: (1) provide

corporate secretary services to the GEICO Companies and their Directors and Officers, including corporate governance oversight, records retention and maintenance, and various insurance department filings; and (2) provide the Human Resources Department with legal counsel relating to the legal compliance and other aspects of labor and employment issues confronted by the GEICO Companies.

Bill has been a presenter to several labor and employment law firm associations and in-house corporate counsel associations in the areas of labor and employment, e-discovery and complex class actions. Bill is also co-author of *Corporate Counsel Solutions, Employment Policies and Practices* (published by LexisNexis in 2007).

Bill is a 1983 graduate of the Howard University School of Law and successfully passed the July 1983 New York State bar exam. Bill is a member of the New York, District of Columbia, Virginia and Maryland bars. He currently serves as a Commissioner on the DC Court of Appeals Equal Access to Justice Commission, a Board member of the New York Urban League, a member of the Resource Board for the National Association of Women Judges, and has been a previous board member of several non-profit organizations.

Prior to joining GEICO, Bill served as an Assistant District Attorney in Brooklyn, New York, has been a senior associate in a Washington, DC, law firm and he has served as the managing attorney for the Metropolitan Washington, DC, Staff Counsel firm operations for Aetna and Travelers Insurance Companies.



#### **CHRISTINA GUEROLA SARCHIO**

Christina Guerola Sarchio is a Partner at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe in the firm's Washington, DC office. Attorney Sarchio's commercial litigation practice focuses on general litigation, antitrust, and white collar criminal defense matters. She represents clients in varied industries; notable clients have includ-

ed Whole Foods, the Women's National Basketball Association, the National Football League Players Association, and ExxonMobil. Attorney Sarchio has tried more than a dozen cases in federal and state courts with successful outcomes, and has negotiated on behalf of her clients with a number of agencies, including the SEC, FDA, DOJ, and various U.S. Attorney Offices.

Attorney Sarchio has been widely recognized as a star in the legal profession. The Washington Business Journal included her among its Top Washington Lawyers in 2007 as a "young gun" and she has since been named as one of "20 Elite Women" by Hispanic Business Magazine, a "Top Washington Lawyer" by the Washington Business Journal, and one of the "100 Most Influential Hispanics" by Hispanic Business Magazine. In 2008, the George Washington University School of Law awarded Attorney Sarchio the Belva Lockwood Woman of the Year Award in recognition of her character, contributions to the community, and success in the legal field. She was recently named one of the Top 50 Women Lawyers in DC.

Attorney Sarchio has served as the Hispanic National Bar Association's Vice President of External Affairs and on the DC Bar Board of Governors, the Hispanic Bar Association of DC, the George Washington University Law School Alumni Association, and LatinoJustice/PRLDEF. Attorney Sarchio has also taught as an adjunct professor at The George Washington University Law School, frequently provides on-air legal commentary, and serves as an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. Prior to joining Orrick, Attorney Sarchio prosecuted cases for the Manhattan District Attorney's office, served as co-chair of the Government Investigations and Litigation practice group at Patton Boggs, and was a Litigation Partner at Howrey LLP. Attorney Sarchio has also clerked for the U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C. (Public Integrity) and the Department of Justice (Civil Division). She received her B.A. from Cornell University and her law degree from the George Washington University School of Law.

### **RESOURCE BOARD MEMBERS AT THE 2014 ANNUAL IN SAN DIEGO**



Resource Board Co-Chairs Elaine Metlin (left) and Karen Johnson-McKewan hosting the Friends Appreciation Luncheon, October 17, 2014 in the U.S. Grant Hotel



Resource Board member Harriet Wesig (center) receiving NAWJ's 2014 Mattie Belle Davis Award for going above and beyond her role as an NAWJ member and volunteer to help make a difference in the organization and further its mission





National Association of Women Judges  
1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1138  
Washington, D.C. 20036

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## ***With Liberty and Justice for All***

### **NAWJ 2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**October 7-11, 2015**  
**Salt Lake City, Utah**  
**Grand America Hotel**

#### **CONFERENCE CHAIRS**

**Hon. Michele Christiansen, Utah Court of Appeals**

**Hon. Sharon McCully (Ret.), 3rd District Juvenile Court**

#### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Peggy Hunt, Esq., Dorsey & Whitney LLP**

**Hon. Sandra Peuler, Third District Court, Utah**

**Hon. Kate Toomey, Utah Court of Appeals**

#### **FRIENDS COMMITTEE**

**Tammy G. Georgelas, Esq., Snow Christensen & Martineau**

**Margaret N. McGann, Esq., Parsons Behle & Latimer**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

**Gender Bias**

**Same Sex Marriage**

**Impact of Media/Social Media**

**Disrupting the School to Prison Pipeline**

**Dean Erwin Chemerinsky**

**Evidentiary Issues with Magnetic Images of the Brain**

**How Intuition Misleads Judges**

**50 Years after In Re Gault**

**Justice Reinvestment Initiative**

**Human Trafficking**

**Immigration**

#### **REGISTRATION & HOTEL**

**[http://www.nawj.org/annual\\_2015.asp](http://www.nawj.org/annual_2015.asp)**