

## ***DISTRICT 12 DIRECTOR'S REPORT***

Karen Ashby and I hosted a Women Judges Meeting at the 2016 Colorado State Judicial Conference on September 12, 2016. We hosted a roundtable discussion on gender bias in judicial performance evaluations and recommendations regarding retention. Our State Court Administrator Kent Wagoner was on hand to answer questions regarding the training of our judicial performance commissioners and how the statistics are generated. In Colorado, judges are not elected, rather we are appointed by either the Governor or the Mayor, depending on the county. This is referred to as merit-based selection. Judges stand retention every 4-6 years. Concerns were raised about the judicial performance evaluation process, namely the low number of attorneys that respond to surveys sent out and the implicit gender bias that affects answers of those surveyed. Additionally, concerns were raised about implicit gender bias amongst the commissioners who ultimately decide whether to recommend retain, do not retain, no opinion or performance plan.

Colorado also plans on participating in the Storybook Drive again in November.

Best,

Judge Rodarte  
District 12 Director