On May 9, 2016, Honorable Jan R. Jurden, Presiding Judge of the Delaware Superior Court and the Delaware Chapter of District Three, joined with Sisters in Success Program Chair Amy Herb to present the 4th Sisters in Success conference at Baylor Women’s Correctional Institution. The theme for this year’s conference was “What Inspires You?” The conference brought together a team of criminal justice professional women from the local community designed to empower women within the Delaware justice system. The keynote speaker was Doctor Jill Biden.

Pennsylvania members of District Three attended a reception on July 28, 2016 at the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges’ Annual Conference in Hershey. Members welcomed the newest member of Pennsylvania’s Supreme Court, Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy, as well as the President Judge of Superior Court, Susan Peikes Gantman, and newly appointed Superior Court Judge Lillian H. Ransom. They were joined by Judge Alice Dubow of Superior Court, Senior Judge Rochelle S. Friedman of Commonwealth Court, and numerous judges from the Pennsylvania Courts of Common Pleas. All were delighted to hear from District Director Barbara McDermott, long standing NAWJ member, Judge Doris Pechurow, and Judge Lisette Shirdan-Harris, our newly elected Director representing the United States on the Board of the International Association of Women Judges. Suggestions were made to make the reception a part of the annual conference.

Members were saddened by the death of one of our heroes, U.S. Eastern District of Pennsylvania Judge Norma L. Shapiro.
New Jersey Superior Court Judges, Michelle C. Hollar-Gregory and Siobhan A. Teare, who are members of NAWJ, participated on an educational, cultural, and humanitarian mission to South Africa in February 2016 hosted by Global Linkages, founder, Lorna R. Johnson, Esq. (pictured from left to right are: Justice Cameron, Siobhan A. Teare, JSC, Justice Zondo and Michele C. Hollar-Gregory, JSC.)

As a highlight of the experience, Judges Hollar-Gregory and Teare led a legal delegation from New Jersey to meet with two of South Africa's Constitutional Court Justices Edwin Cameron and Raymond Zondo on Monday February 15, 2016 at the Constitutional Court, located in Johannesburg. South Africa. The Justices' gracious commitment to meet with the legal delegation was a clear demonstration of their commitment to sharing the accomplishments of the South African Constitutional Court which is the highest of the court of the country. The transformative work of the Court was accentuated with its location and its judicial integrity. More importantly, the Court's transparency is underscored in its deliberate architectural design of open windows facing the wall of the jails where all political prisoners during the apartheid era were held as they awaited trial. This serves as a reminder of where the country was and how it's moving forward.

Annual Meeting in Hershey

NAWJ held a meeting at the Annual State Conference of Trial Judges Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, July 27.

What Inspires You? Delaware's Fourth Annual Sisters in Success: A Reentry Program for Women in Prison

On May 9, 2016, Hon. Jan. R. Jurden, Presiding Judge of the Delaware Superior Court) and the Delaware Chapter of NAWJ, joined with Sisters in Success Program Chair Ann Herb, Delaware Department of Corrections’ Basur Women’s Correction Institution and the Women in Law Section of the Florida State Bar Association, to present, "What Inspires You?", a program to encourage women in prison in maintaining sustainable, healthy lives as they near and gain re-entry. Both NAWJ member Judge Jurden, and Amy Herb, along with Basur Warden Wendy Caple lead off the gathering before the Keynote Address by Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden, and words from Delaware’s 16th Poet Laureate.