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# YOKA | SMITH

We are honored to support 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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State of California  
Office of the Attorney General

XAVIER BECERRA  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 15, 2019

National Association of Women Judges  
1001 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1138  
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Friends:

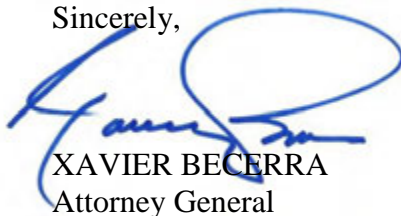
On behalf of the California Department of Justice, I am honored to welcome you to the National Association of Women Judges' 41st Annual Conference.

For over forty years, the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) have pursued its founding mission of protecting the rights of individuals under the rule of law through diverse judicial leadership; fairness and equality in the courts; and equal access to justice. NAWJ does this by increasing the number of women on the bench, offering judicial education on social justice issues, and advancing fairness and equality for vulnerable populations. I applaud your tireless efforts to protect the rights of individuals under the rule of law.

This year's conference's theme; "Looking Back, Looking Forward, A Century of Women's Progress" sets the stage to encourage productive conversations about relevant issues affecting the legal community today and consider their impact on the future of our judicial systems.

I extend my best wishes for a memorable and successful conference.

Sincerely,



XAVIER BECERRA  
Attorney General

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

October 15, 2019

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

Dear Friends:

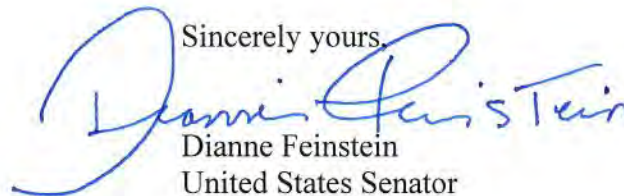
It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to all who have gathered for the National Association of Women Judges' (NAWJ) *41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference*.

Since its inception, the NAWJ has dedicated itself to promoting equality and diversity within judicial leadership. Through its educational programs, advocacy, and leadership development, NAWJ works towards ensuring fairness within courts and equal access to justice for all Americans. There is no doubt that its important work will continue to benefit countless individuals for years to come.

As your United States Senator representing the State of California, I commend the National Association of Women Judges' for its tremendous achievements and contributions. Please accept my best wishes for a most memorable event.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

## United States Senate

October 15, 2019

Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to welcome you all to the National Association of Women Judges' (NAWJ) 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference in the beautiful Los Angeles, California.

Since 1979, the NAWJ has been at the forefront of driving women's parity in American law. Whether it be through improving access for women navigating our country's courts or providing judicial education to the next generation of women advocates and judges, the NAWJ continues to be a leading voice in the pursuit of equal rights for women, children, and our country's most vulnerable populations and communities.



This year, we remain committed and inspired by the work of women across the United States – be they lawyers, judges, or advocates – who fight tirelessly every day to protect and defend the rule of law. To all of this year's conference attendees, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for all the work that each of you do.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt welcome to the NAWJ's leadership, the Honorable Tamila Ebrahimi Ipema, President, and the Honorable Bernadette D'souza, President-Elect. Thank you for shining a spotlight on such an inspiring and active constituency of women leaders in American law.

Best wishes for a warm and memorable conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kamala D. Harris".

Kamala D. Harris  
United States Senator



## Mission

To promote the judicial role in 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.

## History

Since its formation in 1979, NAWJ has served as the leading voice for jurists dedicated to promoting the judicial role in protecting the rights of individuals under the rule of law; engaging in civic education about the importance of a fair judiciary free from influence of special interest or political influence; providing a voice in significant matters that affect the administration of justice; ensuring equal justice and access to the courts for all, with a focus on women, minorities, and other historically disfavored groups and vulnerable populations; promoting the advancement of women and minorities at all levels of the judiciary; and providing judicial education on cutting-edge issues. NAWJ was founded over 40 years ago by two visionaries – California Justices Joan Dempsey Klein and Vaino Spencer – and 100 brave and intrepid women judges committed to forming an organization dedicated to these ideals.

## Membership

NAWJ is committed to diversity in membership. The organization welcomes both men and women. It includes trial and appellate judges, administrative, tribal and military judges, and federal, state and municipal judges throughout the country, and in a few countries abroad. The membership also includes attorneys, law clerks, law students, and law professors committed to NAWJ's mission. As founder of the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ), NAWJ members meet and interact with judges from all over the world. All members of NAWJ are members of IAWJ.



# Justice Joan Dempsey Klein Honoree

## HONORABLE HOLLY J. FUJIE



The National Association of Women recognizes the Honorable Holly J. Fujie, Judge of the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, as 2019 recipient of the Justice Joan Dempsey Klein Honoree of the Year Award.

Judge Fujie has been very active in the promotion and selection of women and minority candidates for the bench, and has been a firm advocate for a diverse bench. Recently, she offered testimony before a California State Assembly Judiciary Committee hearing on Diversity in the Legal Profession. As State Bar of California President, she created an spoke on programs held at 16 law schools on the retention and advancement of women lawyers entitled “You Can Do It! Successful Women Lawyers Discuss Combining Families and Careers.”

Known for her considerable qualities as a jurist, Judge Fujie is a frequent organizer of and speaker on programs involving substantive law, diversity, leadership and access to justice issues to national, state and local bar, court, and community groups. In addition to being President of the State Bar of California, she was Chair of the State Bar Committee on Regulation, Admissions and Discipline (2007-2008); President of the Chancery Club of Los Angeles (2011-201); and Chair and member of U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein’s Judicial and US Attorney Advisory Committee for the Central District of California.

Judge Fujie has received many awards, including the California Women Lawyers Joan Dempsey Klein Distinguished Jurist Award (2016), Asian Heritage Society Award for Excellence in Legal Affairs (2010), and the American Bar Association’s General Practice, Solo and Small Firm Division’ Difference Maker’s Award (2009).

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Fujie’s experiences included work at firms Buchalter, Nemer; Rosen Wachtell & Gilbert; Rogers & Wells; Morgan, Lewis & Brockius; Adams, Duque & Hazeltine; and as extern with the US. Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of California.

*The Joan Dempsey Klein Honoree of the Year Award honors a judge who brings distinction to her office and to the NAWJ as exemplified by one of NAWJ’s founding mothers, California Appeals Court Justice Joan Dempsey Klein. In 1974, Justice Klein co-founded California Women Lawyers, and would go on to co-found the National Association of Women Judges, along with California Appeals Court Justice Vaino Spencer.*

# *Justice Vaino Spencer Leadership Award*

## HONORABLE TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE



The National Association of Women Judges recognizes the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California, as 2019 recipient of the Justice Vaino Spencer Leadership Award. She is the first Asian-Filipina American and the second woman to serve as California's Chief Justice. As Chief Justice of California she also chairs the Judicial Council of California, the administrative policymaking body of state courts, and the Commission on Judicial Appointments.

As chair of the Judicial Council, the Chief Justice has made the business of judicial administration more transparent. She opened to the public previously closed council meetings and invited public comment at the meetings. The Chief Justice has taken a leadership role in promoting civic awareness and engagement in California. She launched the Power of Democracy initiative to promote civics literacy in California's schools. The committee overseeing the initiative includes representatives from all three levels of California courts, State Bar, local bar associations, as well as local and state education organizations. The project included the California Task Force on K-12 Civic Learning, which was appointed by the Chief Justice and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. The task force's final report is a blueprint to guide future policy discussions and possible legislation to improve K-12 civic learning in California. In addition, the Chief Justice, in collaboration with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, annually presents the Civic Learning Award to those schools that serve as models in promoting civics education.

She was president of the Anthony M. Kennedy American Inn of Court, an organization dedicated to promoting civility, ethics, and professionalism in the practice of law. And was a member of the national Conference of Chief Justices Board of Directors.

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has received many awards. Three highlights include the honor by the Pat Brown Institute of Public Affairs for bringing public attention to the crisis in civic education in the public schools, Sandra Day O'Connor Award for the Advancement of Civics Education from the National Center for State Courts, and Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award from the American Bar Association.

Prior to her elevation to the Supreme Court, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye served for more than 20 years on California's appellate and trial courts. Chief Justice Ronald M. George appointed her to the Judicial Council of California in September 2008. She has also served as chair of the council's Advisory Committee on Financial Accountability and Efficiency for the Judicial Branch, a member of the Domestic Violence Practice and Procedure Task Force and chaired its Best Practices Domestic Violence subcommittee, vice-chair of the Executive and Planning Committee, vice-chair of the Rules and Projects Committee, co-chair of the Judicial Recruitment and Retention Working Group, and as a member of the Commission for Impartial Courts Implementation Committee. The Chief Justice was a Special Master, selected by the Supreme Court of California to hear disciplinary proceedings before the Commission on Judicial Performance. She worked as a Deputy District Attorney for the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, and then served on the senior staff of Governor Deukmejian, first as deputy legal affairs secretary and later as a deputy legislative secretary.

*The Justice Vaino Spencer Leadership Award, whose recipient is selected by the President of NAWJ, honors an individual for outstanding leadership in promoting the vision, core values and mission of NAWJ.*

# *Florence K. Murray Award*

## JERRILYN MALANA



The National Association of Women Judges recognizes Jerrilyn Malana, an accomplished attorney and community leader in and around San Diego, California, as 2019 recipient of the Florence K. Murray Award.

Ms. Malana has done more for the community of San Diego County than many of the region's leading lights. In addition, she has an established record of commitment to the honorable, ethical, and compassionate practice of law, and a commitment to supporting women in the law and judiciary, and the mission of NAWJ. She is known to work tirelessly to improve the legal profession through her leadership, educational efforts and mentorship. She formally and informally mentors countless young lawyers and young people aspiring to be lawyers.

She has strengthened NAWJ by serving as Friends Committee co-chair for its 2014 Annual Conference, and its 2019 Leadership Luncheon. She has participated in NAWJ programs as speaker on a #WeToo panel in Sacramento; coordinated an Informed Voters-Fair Judges program in 2014 featuring California Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye; served as a planning committee member for women in prison programs, participating in the "Freedom Through Words" book club for incarcerated women; and mentors in NAWJ's popular outreach programs Color of Justice and MentorJet.

Ms. Malana presently serves as Chief Deputy District Attorney for Human Resources with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office. Prior to joining the District Attorney's Office, she spent more than 16 years as an employment law attorney and shareholder at Littler Mendelson.

Ms. Malana was the first Asian Pacific American attorney to serve as President of the San Diego County Bar Association. She is Past President of Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego and the University of California, San Diego Alumni Association. She served as co-chair of the American Bar Association Employment and Labor Relations Law Committee for the Section of Litigation, and on the Executive Committee of the Bench-Bar Coalition. She also serves as chair of the Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee for the California Lawyers Association. She was appointed by the California Supreme Court to serve on the State Bar Trustees Nominating Committee in 2017.

Ms. Malana has received numerous honors including being inducted into the San Diego Women's Hall of Fame as a 'Trailblazer'; Community Service Award from the Lawyers Club of San Diego; American Bar Association's Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section and Law in Public Service' Public Service Honor Roll Award; and the State Bar of California's Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services.

*The Florence K. Murray Award was instituted by its namesake, Honorable Florence K. Murray, for presentation 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. Justice Murray was the first woman appointed to the Rhode Island Superior and Supreme Courts. She was also the only woman in the Rhode Island Senate during her years in the State House from 1948-1956. While there, she sponsored legislation to abolish wage differences based on gender and for equal pay for teachers throughout the State. She also introduced a bill making it easier for a parent to get child support if a former spouse leaves the State, and another that led to the creation of state facilities for the care and treatment of alcoholics.*



# Mattie Belle Davis Award

## SHIBANI MALHOTRA



The National Association of Women Judges recognizes Shibani Malhotra, Senior Justice Advisor in the U.S. State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), as 2019 recipient of the Mattie Belle Davis Award.

Ms. Malhotra has been successfully organizing the education and professional development of international judges at NAWJ annual conferences for over ten years. Over five hundred judges from countries on every continent in the world have taken advantage of the opportunity to learn best practices from America's leading jurists, and develop networks to help conquer challenges in their home countries.

Ms. Malhotra provides technical criminal justice expertise and guidance on how to assess, design, implement, monitor and evaluate criminal justice reform and development programs that are consistent with U.S. foreign policy goals and directives. In this role, she has conducted assessments of over 25 countries. She also serves as an advisory resource for INL program managers on criminal justice reform efforts, including how to engage with different political and legal systems. She is the primary author of INL's Guide to Justice Sector Assistance and contributor to the INL Guide to Gender in the Criminal Justice System.

Prior to joining the State Department, Ms. Malhotra served as a Rule of Law, Justice and Security Specialist for the United Nations Development Programme in New York. She was also UNDP's point person for both Security Sector Reform and Addressing Sexual Violence, and helped establish the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Sexual Violence in Conflict. Before moving to New York, Ms. Malhotra worked for UNDP-Iraq as a Governance Specialist, working with the Government of Iraq and relevant national and international partners on the development and implementation of multi-million dollar comprehensive rule of law programs. Prior to joining UNDP-Iraq, Ms. Malhotra worked as a consultant for various United Nations entities in Vietnam assisting on several legal sector development programs. Ms. Malhotra started her legal career at a private law firm where she worked on a variety of international civil litigation issues. She has a Juris Doctorate (with a focus on International Law) as well as a Master's Degree in International Affairs from American University in Washington D.C. She received her B.A. from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, where she had a joint major in Economics and Political Science and a minor in International Development Studies.

*The Mattie Belle Davis Award honors a member dedicated to furthering and supporting women in the legal profession, and who has gone above and beyond his or her role as member and volunteer to help make a difference in the organization and furthered its mission, as the Honorable Mattie Belle Davis did.*

# Norma Wikler Excellence in Service Award

## ANNETTE BOYD PITTS



The National Association of Women Judges recognizes Annette Boyd Pitts, a nationally recognized law education and civic learning advocate, with its Norma Wikler Excellence in Service Award. Ms. Pitts is Director of the Justice Teaching Center for Civic Learning at Florida Southern College, and is the principal author of The Florida Bar Benchmarks Adult Civic Education Program.

Ms. Pitts has dedicated her professional life to educating the public about the judicial branch and its unique role in our constitutional structure. She has created a wide range of award-winning K-12 civics and law programs, instructional resources, and academic competitions for students. She assisted in the development of the inaugural Florida Supreme Court Teacher Institute, a multi-day training program for Florida teachers established under the leadership of Chief Justice Gerald Kogan. All seven Florida Supreme Court justices serve as faculty for the institute, using a case study approach. The program continues today and serves as a national model. She has worked with various committees within The Florida Bar and the Florida Department of Education to assist in the development of state education standards in civics and government.

Ms. Pitts serves as faculty for numerous judicial colleges and conferences throughout the country. She is a widely respected civic and law education program developer, curriculum designer, trainer, and education policy consultant. She has worked in over 25 countries to advance education for democracy efforts and has administered trilateral international partnerships in Eastern/Central Europe and Latin America

Ms. Pitts has received numerous state and national awards including the National Improvements in Justice Award, Sandra Day O'Connor Award for Advancements in Civic Education, American Bar Association Isidore Starr Award for Excellence in Law Related Education, Council for the Social Studies Outstanding Citizen Award, and The Florida Bar President's Merit Award for her contributions to public education and the justice system. She has authored numerous articles published in the *International Journal of Social Education*, *Voir Dire*, *The Council for Basic Education*, *The Federal Lawyer*, *the American Forum*, *Quality Cities*, *The Florida Bar Journal*, *The Florida Voter*, *Social Education*, and others.

*The Norma Wikler Excellence in Service Award keeps the memory alive of one, Norma Wikler, who was founder and first director of the National Judicial Education Program to Promote Equality for Women and Men in the Courts (NJEP), which was sponsored by NOW Legal and Education Fund and the National Association of Women Judges. NJEP led to the creation of over fifty gender bias task forces for the state and federal courts.*

# *Lady Justice Award*

## KATHY IRELAND



The National Association of Women Judges honors Kathy Ireland, who commands a global lifestyle brand, with the Lady Justice Award. Ms. Ireland is publishing her first novel, *Fashion Jungle*, based on true stories that include painful aspects of her life in the modeling industry.

“There’s so many young girls who feel like they must succumb to inappropriate, even dangerous behavior,” she told WFAA, a Dallas based news station. “There were things that I experienced in my naïve youth, I went to people who were actually complicit in that behavior. Today, I would go to the police.” Her novel, expected to be released January 28, 2020, tells the story of four women in the modeling industry. Events she experienced as a model inspired the book. “I remember just sitting in stunned silence almost wanting to cry,” said Rachel Van Dyken, co-author, after beginning to work with Ms. Ireland on the book. “It’s really heavy stuff but it’s a message that has to be told. Anyone can identify with any of those women, any of those characters, especially in the environment that we’re in with the MeToo movement.”

Ms. Ireland is a business mogul. In 1993, she founded the *kathy ireland*<sup>®</sup> Worldwide brand that includes fashion, fine jewelry, intimate apparel, skincare, accessories, weddings, home and office products. Ms. Ireland has appeared on the cover of *Forbes Magazine* twice (2012, 2016), and is listed as the 25th most powerful brand globally by *License! Global Magazine*, and according to Fairchild Publications, Kathy Ireland is one of the 50 most influential people in fashion.

Ms. Ireland and *kiWW*<sup>®</sup> support many non-profits including: YWCA Greater Los Angeles for which she is an Ambassador, Dream Foundation, Providence Educational Foundation, 911 for Kids/AEF, and the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Kathy is the first-ever National PTA Ambassador for Youth. She is an Ambassador for the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation.

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