



**HON. TAMILA EBRAHIMI IPEMA**  
**JUDGE**  
**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

The Honorable Tamila E. Ipema received her Bachelors' Degree from Damavand College in Tehran, Iran. She received her Masters' Degree from the University of Louisville, and her J.D. degree from Brandeis School of Law in Louisville, Kentucky. She received an LL.M. Degree in International and Comparative Law from Georgetown University School of Law.

Judge Ipema has served as a judicial officer for nearly 15 years. She has experience in family, criminal, and civil courts. She previously practiced as an immigration defense attorney; as an Assistant District Counsel with the U.S. Department of Justice in immigration matters; as a judicial research attorney; and as a supervising research attorney for the Los Angeles Superior Court. She also served as a California Superior Court Commissioner in both Los Angeles and San Diego Counties prior to her appointment as a Judge to the San Diego Superior Court.

Judge Ipema received the National Association of Women Judges' Mattie Belle Davis Award in 2013 for furthering the organization's mission of "Equal Access to Justice for All." She received the Lawyers Club of San Diego's "International Woman of Color" award in 2015, and the "Friend of the Community Award" from Tom Homann LGBTQ Law Association in 2016. She received two "Outstanding Jurist Awards" from the San Diego County Bar Association and from the University of La Verne College of Law in 2016. In 2017, Judge Ipema was awarded the prestigious Alba Witkin Humanitarian Award by the California Judges Association. In 2018, Judge Ipema was awarded the "Women of Influence in Justice and Law Award" from the Iranian-American Women's Foundation.

Judge Ipema has served on the California Judicial Council's "Access and Fairness Advisory Committee," as well as the California Judicial College Curriculum committee, and has participated in workshops to incorporate fairness into all judicial education materials. Judge Ipema has extensive teaching experience at B. E. Witkin California Judicial College, and is very involved in her community mentoring children and law students to follow careers in law and the judiciary. She has chaired NAWJ's Color of Justice and Mentor Jet programs for 10 years, in an attempt to create diversity pipelines to the bench. She has chaired NAWJ's "Success Inside & Out" program for three years, a restorative justice and re-entry program helping incarcerated women to become productive members of the society. Judge Ipema has served on many different NAWJ committees including the Informed Voter-Fair Judges Project (IVP) which is a civics education program educating the public about the importance of "Independence of Judiciary," and she has co-chaired the NAWJ's "Access and Fairness" and "Membership" Committees. Judge Ipema has served on the NAWJ Board of Directors and Executive Board as District Director for District 14 (2-year term), as Vice President of Districts, and as Treasurer. In June 2019, Judge Ipema was invited by His Holiness Pope Francis to speak at the "Pan-American Summit on Social Justice and Franciscan Doctrine." At this summit, Pope Francis appointed Judge Ipema, along with 5 other judges from Peru, Chile, Brazil, Argentina and Columbia, to the newly created "Pan-American Commission of Judges on Social Justice" for a period of two years. Judge Ipema travels internationally presenting on the issues of ethics, judicial independence, equal access to justice for all, human trafficking, domestic violence and other topics. She presented at the International Association of Women Judges conference in Tanzania in 2014. She also has presented on the topic of human trafficking at a Vatican Summit in 2017. She spoke at the Summit on Social Justice at Vatican in 2019. She has a presentation scheduled in Brazil, Peru, Vatican, and Columbia in 2019-2020. Judge Ipema is the Immediate Past President of National Association of Women Judges (2018-2019).