

National Association of Women Judges

District 1 Quarterly Newsletter

New Women Judges 2016

Congratulations to the following women judges who were appointed to the bench in 2016!



SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT: Kimberly Budd (formerly Superior Court)

APPEALS COURT: Sookyong Shin

SUPERIOR COURT: Rosemary Connolly, Hélène Kazanjian and Karen Green

DISTRICT COURT: Michele A. Ouimet-Rooke, Michele Amour and Ina Howard Hogan

HOUSING COURT: Maria Theophilis,

JUVENILE COURT: Linda Sable, Tracie Souza and Carol Shaw

PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT: Melanie Gargas and Lee Peterson

Quick News

- Hon. Patricia Flynn, Massachusetts Juvenile Court, was re-elected Clerk of the Massachusetts Judges Conference at its annual meeting in the fall of 2016.

- Hon. Gloria Tan, Massachusetts Juvenile Court, was a panelist for the How to Become a Judge or Clerk Magistrate seminar offered by Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education in Boston in November.

- On June 7, 2016 an interview appeared in InDepthNH- The New Hampshire Center for Public Interest Journalism about Chief Justice Linda Stewart Dalianis, Chief justice of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire. She is enjoying her 36th year on the bench. She was the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court and its first woman Chief Justice. One story she shares of her early days was that male court officers would sometimes call her honey and she would reply "that's Judge Honey" and eventually the point was made.

- On January 8, 2016 Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Family Court Haiganush R. Bedrosian retired. She was the first woman in the family court and the first woman chief justice.

In April 2016, Rhode Island Superior Court Judge Patricia A. Hurst, a jurist of wit, wisdom and legal acumen, retired after 26 years on the State Trial Court.



Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Justice Fernande R.V. Duffly retired on July 12, 2016. A past President of NAWJ and an active member she continues to be a mentor and role model to women judges. Above is a picture at the reception held in her honor at the John Adams Courthouse.

Branching Out 2016 Program

NAWJ District One presented Branching Out 2016: Opportunities to Make a Difference in the Three Branches of Government for a crowded audience on November 16, 2016.

The program was held at the John Adams Courthouse in Boston which had been restored to its historic beauty under the guidance of then Supreme Judicial Court Chief Justice Margaret Marshall. The program was sponsored by the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts.

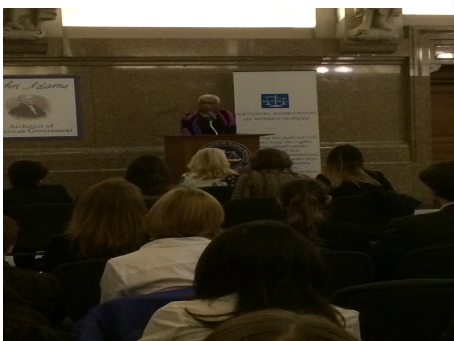
District One Director Judge MaryLou Muirhead and WBA President Kristin Shirahama hosted the after-work program, together with Massachusetts Appeals Court Associate Justice Ariane Vuono, Chair of the NAWJ Finance Committee, and past NAWJ Presidents Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Associate Justice (ret) Nan Duffly and Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Juvenile Court Amy Nechtem. A representative from each of the three branches spoke about her path to a leadership role in government: Marylou Sudders, Secretary of Health and Human Services in the Baker Administration, Linda Dorcena Forry, Senator for the First Suffolk District, and Associate Justice Geraldine Hines of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. The associations presented an award to State Representative Ellen Story of the Third Hampshire District as she concludes twenty-four years of service in the state legislature.

After the presentations the audience participated in one of two panel presentations moderated by Justices Nechtem, Vuono and Duffly. The moderators led the panelists through a guided dialog about their motivation to enter government service, challenges they had to overcome, and lessons they had learned. Panelists were Attorney Sharon Shelfer Casey, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Judicial Nominating Commission, Representative Ellen Story, Magistrate Judge Page Kelley of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts, Associate Justice Kimberly Budd of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, Associate Justices Amy Blake and Gabrielle Wolohojian of the Massachusetts Appeals Court, Judges Pamela Dashiell and Debra DelVecchio of the Boston Municipal Court and Judge Helen Brown Bryant of the Massachusetts Juvenile Court.

The program concluded with a networking reception where judges, state representatives and executive branch officials mingled with law students, interns and attorneys over refreshments. Conversations continued for some time as the women shared their stories, questions, concerns and wisdom with one



District One Director Judge MaryLou Muirhead, Boston Housing Court, addresses the audience to get the program started.



Hon. Geraldine Hines, Associate Justice Supreme Judicial Court, representing the judicial branch, addresses the group.



Speakers and NAWJ hosts (l-r) Senator Linda Dorcena Forry, Chief Justice Amy Nechtem, Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders, SJC Associate Justice Geraldine Hines, District One Director Judge MaryLou Muirhead, SJC Associate Justice (ret) Nan Duffly, Appeals Court Associate Justice Ariane Vuono with honoree Representative Ellen Story.

Faces of Justice

In October 2016 Seattle was host to the 38th Annual National Association of Women Judges Conference entitled Faces of Justice. The Conference agenda mixed fun and sightseeing with very thought provoking seminars. Topics included Challenges of Aging, Justice for Vets, Human Trafficking, Water Issues and Tribes, Gender and Race in the Movies, Sexual Assaults on Campus, Access for Limited English Proficiency and Near and Hard of Hearing, Implicit Bias and Transgender Issues.

There were visits to the Suquamish Tribal Court and Museum, the Needle, the Chihuly Glass Museum, and the Experience Music Project Museum where judges explored their musical talents and budding Rock Bands were formed.



District One Judges At the Seattle Conference: (From Left)

Fairlie Dalton

Diana Horan

MaryLou Muirhead

Anne Chaplin

Upcoming Events

2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

It's not too early to begin planning for the 2017 Annual conference in Atlanta. It will be held at the Sheraton Atlanta from October 11 through October 15. Registration information is available at www.nawj.org.

2017 MIDYEAR MEETING AND LADY JUSTICE GALA

The 2017 Midyear Meeting and Lady Justice Gala will be held on June 7-8 at The Beverly Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles. Registration information is available at www.nawj.org.

NEW ENGLAND CRUISE 2017

Join the fun on Holland America's MS Maasdam for a 7 day cruise from Boston to Montreal, with stops in Bar Harbor, Maine, Halifax and Sydney, Nova Scotia, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island and Montreal from May 20 through May 27. Registration information is available at www.nawj.org.

Any other news? Send it our way so it can be included in the next newsletter!

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