



**NAWJ District 13 Report**  
**District Director – Hon. Karen Donohue**  
May, 2017

**ALASKA**

As of early October, Judge Marjorie Allard and NAWJ Alaska State Chair, Judge Pamela Washington, will participate on an on-going basis in the newly formed Anti-Bias Court Committee. Judge Washington additionally participated in Communications Training with Voices for Justice on behalf of the Alaska Court System's Fairness, Diversity and Equality Committee.

Judge Washington also served as a Community Mentor at the Hiland Mountain Correctional Facility's Success Inside and Out on October 29<sup>th</sup>. On November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Judge Washington was a mentor for the Mt. Edgecombe High School Color of Justice and Mentor Jet Programs and served as a moderator for *Constitutional Cranium* and *You Be the Judge* programs.

In December, 2016, Justice Not Politics Alaska, led by NAWJ's Senior Judge Elaine Andrews and other retired judges, released three new public service announcement videos spotlighting prominent Alaskans sharing their praise for Alaska's independent judiciary.

Senior Justice Dana Fabe, who will be presented with the prestigious Sandra Day O'Connor Award for the Advancement of Civics Education on August 8, 2017, continues her work in civics education after retiring in 2016. She serves as a member on the iCivics Task Force.

Judge Pamela Washington arranged, and Justice Dana Fabe hosted, a recruitment reception at the lovely new home Justice Fabe on February 17, 2017. Several newly appointed judges, NAWJ members and potential members attended. The Alaska judges also extended a warm welcome to the District 13 Director Judge Karen Matson.

Senior Judge Elaine Andrews is the recipient of the Rabinowitz Public Service Award. This award is given each year by the Board of Trustees of the Alaska Bar Foundation to an individual whose life work has demonstrated a commitment to public service.

**IDAHO**

Idaho State Chair U.S. Magistrate Judge Candy Dale is in the process of identifying women judges to help her serve on an organizational, membership committee for the purpose of creating an active Idaho State Chapter. A membership event is currently slated for the fall.

## **OREGON**

In December, 2016, District 13 selected Martha Klein Izenon, a 3L at Lewis & Clark School of Law (NAWJ Past President Judge Julie Frantz's *alma mater*) to receive a \$500 scholarship. On April 11, 2017 Judge Frantz presented the Scholarship Award to Ms. Izenon, who graduates this May. In the words of Judge Frantz, "Ms. Izenon is very accomplished, delightful and positive - a selfless individual who engaged in many social justice endeavors to assist and represent vulnerable populations." The award was presented at the annual Student Recognition Luncheon before approximately 120 faculty, staff and students.

## **WASHINGTON**

Seattle was the site of the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual NAWJ conference in October, 2016. The conference included inspiring (The IF Project), cutting-edge Sexual Assault on College Campus, and Transgender 101 programming.

On March 22, NAWJ Washington members joined forces with the local chapter of Washington Women Lawyers to host an event in honor of Women's History Month. Governor Christine Gregoire was the speaker. Governor Gregorie was the 22<sup>nd</sup> Governor of the State of Washington - only the second woman to serve in that role. She remains the only woman to serve as Attorney General for the State.

NAWJ member Judge Rebecca Pennell of the Washington Court of Appeals hosted an event on April 12, 2017 at Heritage University, a university that has traditionally served the historically disadvantaged. Seventy percent of the students at Heritage are women, yet all, or most, of the student organizations are led by men. A panel of state and federal judges and attorneys spoke to students in an effort to increase leadership aspirations in women, civic engagement and careers in the law and judiciary.

Washington State NAWJ member Judge Helen Whitener served as part of a panel discussion at the Black Women Rise national conference in March. She joined an impressive panel of speakers, led by American icon, Dr. Angela Davis. As part of that conference, Judge Whitener presented a session entitled "Color of Justice: Coding an Imperfect Criminal Justice Paradigm," and participated in a panel discussion on "Black Women in Law Enforcement, Corrections and the Bench."

Judge Helen Whitener will host a Color of Justice event at the Pierce County Superior Court on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Success Inside and Out Women's Conference at Mission Creek Correctional Facility is scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

The annual Law Student Reception will be held November 1<sup>st</sup>. At this event the Washington Chapter of NAWJ and the Gender and Justice Commission will each present a \$500 scholarship to a 2L or 3L student at the University of Washington.