



June 27, 2025
Report from District One
Honorable Amy Lyn Blake

Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Puerto Rico and Rhode Island

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Gina DeRossi, Court Administrator, Appeals Court



Attorney Gina DeRossi is the Court Administrator and General Counsel of the Massachusetts Appeals Court. She joined the Court in 2018 after serving as Register of Probate and prior to that she practiced probate and family law. Attorney DeRossi is a graduate of Providence College and New England Law | Boston.

Judge Cara Krysil, District Court



Judge Cara Krysil began her career as an Assistant District Attorney in the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office where she became Chief of the Juvenile Justice Division, and then Chief of the Lowell Regional Superior Court. She then joined the Attorney General's Office where she served as the Chief of the Enterprise and Major Crimes Division. Prior to her appointment, Judge Krysil was Division Counsel for the New England Field Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration at the Department of Justice. Judge Krysil graduated from Assumption College and Western New England University School of Law.

Judge Sarah Kennedy, District Court



Judge Kennedy began her career as a prosecutor for the Middlesex District Attorney's Office and then a defense attorney for the Committee for Public Counsel Services. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she served as an Assistant Clerk Magistrate in the Dorchester Division of the Boston Municipal Court. Judge Kennedy graduated from Boston College and Suffolk University Law School.

Judge Katherine Field (ret.), Probate & Family Court

Judge Field was an attorney and shareholder at Gay, Gay & Field, P.C., prior to her appointment to the bench in 2010. Beginning in 2015, she served as First Justice of the Bristol Probate & Family Court until her recent retirement. She also served as Chair of the Commission on Judicial Conduct. Judge Field is a graduate of the State University of New York at Albany and Boston College Law School.

BOSTON 2025

Registration for the Annual Conference is live. We have an exciting conference plan with dynamic educational panels and some extra free time to enjoy Boston. REGISTER TODAY!!!



IAWJ

Members of District One attended the IAWJ conference in South Africa including **Judges Vickie Henry, Stacey Fortes, and Mary Beth Ogulewicz.**



RETIREMENT

CONGRATULATIONS TO **JUDGE HELEN BROWN BRYANT** ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE JUVENILE COURT!

MEMORIAL LECTURE

Chief Justice Amy Nechtem (ret). delivered the 24th Annual James J. St. Germain Memorial Lecture at Merrimack College presented by The Department of Political Science and Public Policy and the International Studies Program. Chief Nechtem writes: "Congratulations to the Political Science National Honor Society Inductees for their outstanding academic achievements. I share Professor Emeritus St. Germain's commitment to public service, civic engagement and society's shared responsibility in governance and public policy. My lecture entitled, "The Future We Owe Our Children: Building a World of Opportunity and Hope", is a call to action in furtherance of the health and wellbeing of our most vulnerable populations. Each of us plays a role in realizing a world where every child is safe, happy and healthy. Prevention and intervention innovative connections, upstream, matter. They have the power to change a life. I am grateful to the leadership of Merrimack College and its vibrant community, for the distinct privilege to discuss this critical topic."



HONORARY DEGREE

Chief Justice Amy Blake delivered the keynote speech at New England Law Boston's Law Day Banquet where she also received an Honorary Doctor of Laws. Her speech amplified the Law Day Theme of *E Pluribus Unum*, "Out of Many, One."



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Judges Michelle Fentress and Meghan Spring will be panelists on MCLE's Criminal Cases: District Court Judicial Forum 2025.

Judge Marguerite Grant will be a panelist on the Flaschner Judicial Institute's: Evidence: You Be the Judge 2025.

Judge Valerie Yarashus will be a panelist on MCLE's Personal Injury Law Annual Conference.

Judge Mikalen Howe will be a panelist on MCLE's Family Law Forum.

Judge Christine Anthony will be a panelist on MCLE's "Identifying & Proving When 50/50 Isn't Fair."

Judges Helen Brown-Bryant and Cat Ham will be panelists on MCLE's "Trial Advocacy Workshop 2025."

Respectfully submitted:

Hon. Amy Lyn Blake
NAWJ District One Director