



April 29, 2024

Report from District One Honorable Amy Lyn Blake

Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Puerto Rico and Rhode Island Mid-Year Meeting Austin, Texas

Chief Justice Amy Nechtem and **Justice Amy Blake** attended the mid-year meeting in Texas. It was chock full of educational programming, and lots of opportunity to socialize and collaborate with our colleagues across the country. Here is a photo from the closing breakfast:



Annual Conference(s)

The annual conference is in **San Diego** from **October 17-19, 2024**. Registration opens in May. They have a terrific program on tap, and I hope to see lots of D1 members in attendance. **Boston** will host the Hospitality Suite on Saturday night, October 19th to kick off the buzz for **Boston 2025**. Please join me in planning for a fun time! Boston 2025 is officially scheduled for **October 24-26, 2025**, at the Boston Park Plaza. Look for emails asking for volunteers!

Update on Judge "Z"¹

As I reported, a team led by **Judges Valerie Yarashus** and **MaryBeth Ogulewicz** are assisting "Z", an Afghan judge, as she resettles in Massachusetts. "Z" is here with her husband and two young children. They recently moved from a hotel to an apartment in Medford. Many D1 members have volunteered to spend time with "Z" and her family on the weekends which has been incredibly helpful to the family. Recently **Judge Diane Rubin** took the family to Boston.

Judge Rubin writes: "We walked down from Center Plaza to the waterfront, with stops at the City Hall playground, ocean, Aquarium, Greenway carousel, and then had a lunch at Cafe Vanak in Belmont which is halal. It was great fun! And I think we wore the children out." And she shared this family photo from their outing:



We have had a preliminary meeting with the Women's Bar Association to inquire about a partnership to help "Z" and are looking for other partnerships. If you have any suggestions, please pass them along.

We are looking for volunteers to visit with the family. They really enjoy these visits. The children refer to us as "Judge Aunts."

Any D1 member that is interested in helping -- in any way -- please reach out!

¹ We are not using the judge's name for her protection.

Student Government Day 2024

Appeals Court **Justice Rachel Hershfang** spoke to high school students during the 77th annual Student Government held at the Massachusetts State House. To learn more about this annual event, see:

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/scholarships/sgd/default.html>



Respectfully Submitted,

Hon. Amy Lyn Blake
District One Director