



March 27, 2023
Report from District One
Honorable Amy Lyn Blake

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

PROMOTIONS

The United States Senate confirmed President Biden's nomination of Ayer District Court Judge Margaret Guzman to the federal bench as a U.S. District Court judge for the District of Massachusetts. Judge Guzman is the first Hispanic judge to sit on the USDC for Massachusetts. Congratulations Judge Guzman!



Justices of the Housing Court celebrated the elevation of Judge Diana Horan to Chief Justice of the Housing Court with an outing in Truro!



(Judge Ann Chaplin, Chief Justice Diana Horan, Judge Fairlie Dalton and Judge Marylou Muirhead)

PROGRAMS

Mentoring

Judges Karen Green (ret.) and Valerie Yarashus launched a mentoring program at Harvard Law School through the school's Women's Law Student Association. The first event, held on February 27, 2023, was a great success. Next up the law students will visit different courts throughout the Commonwealth.



(Harvard Law Students with Judge Karen Green (ret.) and Judge Valerie Yarashus)

Celebrating Women's History Month

In celebration of Women's History Month, the Massachusetts Trial Court Women's History Committee held a celebration on March 21, 2023, to honor the impactful contributions of some amazing trailblazers from the executive branch, judiciary, academia, media and social service agencies. Gloria Steinem, who was introduced by past NAWJ President Amy Nechtem, offered inspiring remarks. Our own District Court Chief Justice Stacey Fortes was among the honorees!



Join us for the third annual
Women's History Month Celebration
Honoring the impactful contributions of these *amazing* trailblazers

Honorees:

Ms. Gloria M. Steinem
Journalist, Feminist, Activist from

Hon. Maura T. Healey
Governor of Massachusetts

Hon. Stacey J. Fortes
District Court Chief Justice

Attorney Amanda Rowan
Assistant Clerk Magistrate, Middlesex Superior Court

Ms. Molly Baldwin
Founder and Chief Executive Officer of RDCI, Inc.

Hon. Kimberly L. Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts

Dr. Deborah A. Ramirez
Professor of Law, Northeastern University

Ms. Stacey K. Borden M.Ed.
Executive Director of New Beginnings Recovery Services

Ms. Crystal Haynes
Journalist and Boston's News Reporter and Anchor

RSVP Below

Tuesday, March 21, 2023
12:30 PM - 3:00 PM

[In-Person](#)
[YouTube Stream](#)



Hosted by the Massachusetts Trial Court's Women's History Month Planning Committee

Color of Justice

District Court Chief Justice Stacey Fortes hosted a Color of Justice Program at the Lowell Justice Center on March 7, 2023. Sixty middle school girls of color attended this incredible event. Students met with judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, probation officers, court interpreters, and court officers. The students toured the Justice Center and ended their trip with a discussion and a pizza lunch. Chief Justice Fortes was the Mistress of Ceremonies. Participating judges included NAWJ District One members: Amy Lyn Blake (Appeals Court), Catherine Ham (Superior Court), Helen Brown Bryant (Juvenile Court) and Judges Shannon Frison (Superior Court), Michelle Fentress (District Court), and Catherine Byrne (District Court). NAWJ members in attendance included Chief Justice and past NAWJ President Amy Nechtem and judges Kerry Ahearn and Joanna Rodriguez (Juvenile Court).



(Color of Justice Panelists)

Respectfully submitted:

Hon. Amy Lyn Blake
NAWJ District One Director