

District 14 News, NAWJ

June and July 2022

Submitted by the Honorable Pennie K. McLaughlin, District Director

AWARDS AND HONORS:



Los Angeles Assistant Presiding Judge Samantha Jessner

On July 8, 2022, the Honorable Judge Jessner will receive the **Joan Dempsey Klein Distinguished Jurist Award** by the California Women Lawyers. Judge Jessner continues to be a leader for her court, one of the largest in the country, and an inspiring mentor to many Southern California lawyers.



Judge Terrie E. Roberts, San Diego

The Honorable Terrie E. Roberts, San Diego Superior Court, was sworn in on June 24th as the Chair-elect for the California Black Judges and Judicial Council (CABL-JC). Her term will officially begin in 2023, and it was quite an honor to be selected out of all the judicial members in the State.

Judge Maria Puente-Porras, Los Angeles



The Honorable Maria Puente-Porras was named Judicial Officer of the Year by the Los Angeles Southeast District Bar Association. Judge Puente-Porras has dedicated countless hours to panels and discussion groups in the Los Angeles County legal community and it is nice to see her efforts recognized.



Judge Marguerite D. Downing, Los Angeles

The Honorable Judge Marguerite D. Downing, who continues to dedicate her time to serving on legal panels (see below), was recently appointed as the Southern Judicial Advisor to California Women Lawyers (CWL). In the past, Judge Downing served as President of the CWL Board, and will once again take a seat in her new role.

**DISTRICT 14 MEMBERS CONTINUE TO LEAD IN THE LEGAL COMMUNITY ON
PANELS, WEBINARS AND AT CONFERENCES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED
STATES**

Judge Terrie E. Roberts, San Diego:



Judge Roberts inspired many lawyers-to-be in the community during a diversity fellowship program sponsored by the San Diego County Bar Association. Each of the law students in attendance had recently completed their first year and were grateful and inspired to hear about the experiences of Judge Roberts, and her colleague, Judge Torres, along with two attorneys. Judge Roberts commented that four of the students had already followed up with her to meet one on one, and she is excited at the opportunity to continue being a mentor and sharing wisdom along the way.

NAWJ Member Lauren Woon, Attorney, San Diego Superior Court.

Attorney Woon was instrumental in the development of the Diversity Fellowship Program referenced above and took part in forming the Panel to help connect diverse law students to judicial externships and clerkships. For many years, Ms. Woon was head of the San Diego Superior Court internship program for law students. On an entirely different note, Lauren's home garden was recently highlighted for its beauty as the cover photo for San Diego Gardener, photo below!



Judge Dianna Gould-Saltman, Los Angeles:



Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Dianna Gould-Saltman

Judge Gould-Saltman recently traveled to Chicago to present two programs at the Annual Conference of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts. The first was a full-day pre-conference institute, “Judicial Officers Institute: Values, Beliefs, Cultural Norms, and Parenting Time” with colleagues attorney/mediator Daniel Bloom, of Atlanta, GA, and Dr. April Harris-Britt, of Durham, NC, which was moderated by Judge Grace G. Dickler, Presiding Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County, Domestic Relations Division, Chicago, IL.

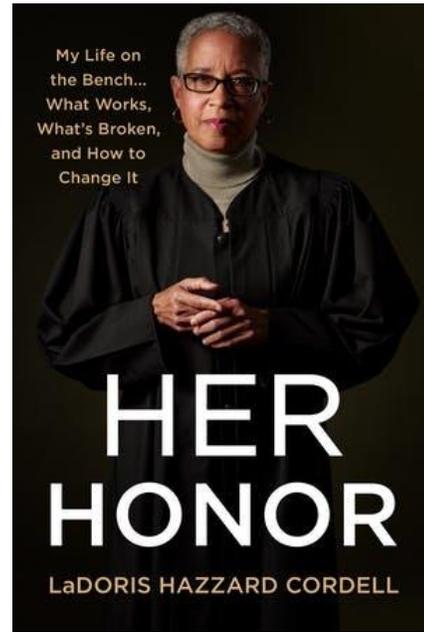
Later in the conference, Judge Gould-Saltman presented a workshop, “Judicial Officers Forum: Perspectives on New Technology in Family Court,” with colleagues from Canada, Ohio and Massachusetts.

Commissioner Pennie K. McLaughlin, San Diego



Commissioner Pennie McLaughlin, interviewing Judge Ladoris Cordell, Ret.

In a lunch time event with the preeminent women’s lawyers’ group, Lawyers Club of San Diego, Judge Cordell traveled to San Diego to engage an audience with stories of her life as a trial court judge in Santa Clara County for 20 years. Judge Cordell has published a book which not only includes several of these interesting, and often funny, tales, but also suggests detailed solutions on how to move toward an improved system of justice.



Final Panel Presentation Notes:

NAWJ Members joined together to present a panel to celebrate the confirmation of our newest United States Supreme Court Justice, Ketanji Brown Jackson and all of the women of the Supreme Court, past, present and future. The panelists included *Judges Margurite Downing* and *Connie Quinones* from Los Angeles Superior Court, and *Judge Anita Santos* from Contra Costa Superior Court.

MADAME PRESIDENT WHITE HOSTS A SOUTHERN CA BRUNCH

On a beautiful sunny afternoon in June, President White opened her spacious home and backyard to NAWJ members of Southern California. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all!





New Member Update:

Welcome to our newest members in District 14!

New Judge Members:

Judge Julia Campins, Contra Costa Superior Court



Judge Daniela Reali-Ferrari, San Diego Superior Court



New Attorney Members:

Attorney Brenda Lopez, Certified Family Law Specialist, San Diego



Attorney Janelle Price, Specialty in Child Welfare Law, Orange County, CA



Attorney Patricia Taitano-Valdovinos, San Diego Deputy Public Defender

