



May 1, 2026  
Midyear Report  
Report from District 14  
Honorable Renee N.G. Stackhouse

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## **1. The District 14 Team**

District 14 Chair [Hon. Renée N.G. Stackhouse](#)  
California State Chair [Uche Enewali, Esq.](#)  
Nevada State Chair [Hon. Kendra Bertschy](#)

## **2. Membership**

Since the 2025 NAWJ Annual Meeting, D14 has welcomed seven new members and 1 new life member.

## **3. Growth of Women in the Judiciary (CA)**

Since the 2025 NAWJ Annual Meeting, California Governor Gavin Newsom has appointed 27 new women judges. There are currently confirmation hearings pending for the elevation of three women state court judges to the Court of Appeal, and one woman justice being elevated to Chief Justice.

## **4. Past Programs**

### 2025 Success Inside & Out- San Diego

San Diego held its annual Success Inside & Out program on November 7, 2025. This program takes place at the local women's detention facility and provides participants with a full day of programming to assist them in re-entry to the community. Programs include topics such as reconnecting with children, ending destructive relationships, life skills on money, credit, and housing, and starting fresh. Many of these panels include "lived experience" speakers who were, at one point, in the same seats as the participants and now choose to give back and share their stories. The panels also include attorneys and judges who provide practical tips from the perspective of the legal system.

This year, approximately 110 women participated in the program. The Committee Chairs, NAWJ members Hon. Chandra Reid and Hon. Renee Stackhouse, would like to thank the many volunteers

who gave their time and energy to make the program a success year after year:

Advisory Committee: Hon. Judith McConnell, Hon. Susan Finlay, Hon. Tamila Ipema, Hon. Randa Trapp, Hon. Nadia Keilani, Hon. Terrie Roberts, and Hon. Pennie K. McLaughlin.

Committee: Parisa Ijadi-Maghsoodi, Esq., Hon. Rosy Meyerowitz, Jerrilyn Malana, Esq., Hon. Maureen Hallahan, Hon. Margaret Mann (Ret.), Tracy Prior, Esq., Hon. Daniela Reali-Ferrari, Mayor Alysson Snow, Esq., San Diego District Attorney Summer Stephan, Esq., Patricia Taitano-Valdovinos, Esq., Chief Deputy District Attorney Tracy Prior, Hon. Jami Ferrara, Dave Durocher of The Other Side Academy, Betty Mohlenbrook of Reading Legacies, Hon. Brigid Campo, and Hon. Rachel Jensen.







### Color of Justice- Santa Clara County

Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara hosted its annual Color of Justice event on February 6, 2026. Color of Justice encourages youth to consider legal and judicial careers by bringing them together with judges and lawyers and providing them with resources to pursue their goals. Presiding Judge Julie Emede addressed the participants, inspiring them by saying “Justice cannot happen unless the justice system reflects the community it serves, and that’s what we’re here to talk about today. If you love the law and you want to be a lawyer, I’m here to tell you—you can be a lawyer. Whatever path you choose, be honest with yourself about what matters to you, and commit to doing your best.” The full press release can be read [here](#).

### Color of Justice – San Diego County (East County)

Superior Court of California, County of San Diego (East County) held a Color of Justice program on March 20, 2026, hosting 80 participants from Crawford High School.

## **5. Upcoming Programs**

### San Diego Resource Fairs

San Diego will soon host two Resource Fairs led by NAWJ member Judge Pennie McLaughlin. The Women’s Fair will be held on Friday, May 15, 2026 from 1 – 3 p.m. at the Las Colinas Detention and Rehabilitation Facility. The Men’s Fair will be Friday, May 29, 2026 from 1 – 3 p.m. at the East Mesa Detention Facility, South Bay. These Fairs bring together providers across the spectrum to assist the inmates with re-entry into their communities. The Women’s

Resource Fair was started over ten years ago and is still going strong. The Men's Resource Fair began last year and was widely praised as helpful by the men who attended.

### San Francisco Color of Justice

Originally set for May 1, 2026, the program has recently been postponed to a date to be determined in the fall. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

### Regional Meeting- San Diego 2027

San Diego will host NAWJ's second annual Regional Meeting in March 2027! We are very excited to provide a program combining entertainment and educational opportunities for all interested NAWJ judges and attorneys.

## **6. Ongoing Programming**

San Diego is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year of its Book Club with the women of the Las Colinas Detention and Rehabilitation Center. Each month a judge and a lawyer selects a book for the book club members, purchases the books to provide to the participants, and then hosts a follow-up discussion about the book. The program is incredibly rewarding and there is usually a wait-list of judges and lawyers who would like to participate!

## **7. Recognitions**

### **Hon. Terrie Roberts**

Judge Roberts received the Bernard S. Jefferson Award at the CJA Annual Conference Annual Membership Luncheon held on September 12, 2025. Judge Roberts was recognized for her Excellence in Judicial Education. Judge Roberts has taught New Judge Orientation (NJO) since 2015, Qualifying Ethics since 2017, has served as a seminar leader at the B.E. Witkin College and co-taught the mandatory Domestic Violence course at the Judicial College. She launched courses including "An In-depth Look at Bias" and "Inspired by Elkins: Sharing Best Practices for Increasing Access to Justice and Supporting Judicial Officers in Family Court." In San Diego, she has served on the Education Committee from 2013 to 2019 and has co-taught the mandatory pro tem course, Bench Conduct & Demeanor, since 2009. Judge Roberts currently serves as the Assistant Supervising, Family Law Division, in San Diego County.

### **Hon. Tilisha Martin (San Diego)**

Judge Martin was awarded the California Women Lawyers Joan Dempsey Klein Distinguished Jurist Award on November 8, 2025. Named after a founding member and President of both California Women Lawyers and the NAWJ, judicial officers selected as recipients of this award embody the namesake's characteristics of excellence as a jurist and longstanding vigorous

service and are an inspiration to women lawyers in California. Judge Martin currently serves as the Assistant Supervising, Juvenile Division, in San Diego County.

**Hon. Euketa Oliver (San Diego)**

Judge Oliver received the Judicial Excellence Award from San Diego Voice & Viewpoint at the Celebrating Our Voices, Shaping Tomorrow Gala, which will take place on Friday, February 13, 2026.

**Hon. Joan P. Weber (San Diego)**

Judge Joan Weber retired after 35 years on the bench. Throughout her judicial career, Judge Weber has presided over thousands of criminal cases, including three death penalty trials, several hundred murder trials, and too many other civil and criminal trials to count. Judge Weber has served as Supervising Judge of the Criminal Division, Supervising Judge of the North County Courthouse and Presiding Judge of the Appellate Division. Judge Weber is known for her work in Civics Education. She has written numerous mock trials that are being used by teachers and judges all over California. She helped organize an annual Youth in Court Day which brings up to 1000 students to the North County Courthouse for a one-day event that includes mock trials and presentations. She served as the President of the California Judges Association from 2012-2016. She received a number of recognitions, including Outstanding Jurist by the San Diego County Bar Association and the Joan Dempsey Klein award from California Women Lawyers. She has been a mentor and role model for lawyers and judges alike throughout her career. Congratulations on your retirement!

**Hon. Laura J. Birkmeyer (San Diego)**

Judge Laura Birkmeyer will receive the Outstanding Jurist Award from the San Diego County Bar Association in May 2025. The award honors an exemplary jurist who, over the course of their career, has provided outstanding service to the bench, the legal profession, the justice system, or the public. Judge Birkmeyer has presided over impactful assignments including Juvenile Dependency, Veteran's Court, and Mental Health Court. She leads the SDSC's Education Committee and has shown dedication and commitment to providing quality education and resources for the betterment of her colleagues. As beautifully stated by the SDCBA, "she approaches each role with purpose and dedication, never seeking recognition, but instead guided by deep commitment to her community and a genuine desire to make a difference in the lives of others. Her unwavering dedication to her colleagues and the community is matched only by her humility. It is this rare combination of excellence, service, and humility that makes Judge Birkmeyer an exemplary jurist and a truly deserving recipient of this honor."