



November 9, 2021
Report from District 4
Honorable Gwenlynn D'Souza

District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia

Thank you to all our past Chapter leaders. It was a difficult time to plan with pandemic precautions. For those of you who are interested in meeting, we are actively recruiting for our local chapter leadership and committees. Please join and bring a friend.

Planning for the annual NAWJ Maryland Chapter Irma S. Raker Dinner is in progress for a date in January/February 2022. This dinner is hosted to foster communication between the judges from the Maryland Chapter, the Women Legislators of Maryland, and the Executive Branch.

Planning for the Women Moving Forward conference in Jessup, Maryland, is ongoing. The conference was postponed due to the pandemic. The goal of this annual conference is to provide women who are within 6 to 9 months of release with resources and information necessary to support their successful return to the community. If you are so inclined, directions for donations may be found at <http://www.wmfmd.org/donations.html>.

The District chapter continues to partner with the District of Columbia Department of Corrections to create a series of podcasts. Our third podcast was on the subject of Pay Equity and the Fair Criminal Records Screening Act. Speakers at the recording session were Administrative Law Judges Gwen D'Souza and Erika Pierson. Planning for future podcasts on public housing, reentry job search, expungement, mental health, and wellness is underway.

Welcome to our newest member Katherine R Altener of the Self-Represented Litigation Network! We are happy to be hosting a Mid-Year Conference in your backyard next year. Please calendar the dates for the Mid-Year Conference, which is scheduled for **March 10-12, 2022**. Details to follow about a venue in Northern Virginia.



Congratulations again to the Honorable Anna Blackburne Rigsby, Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals who received the Joan Dempsey Klein Award, named in honor of the NAWJ's Founding Mother. Attached is a photo from the award ceremony.

Please send photos of events in recognition of our members or members involved in community service, so we may include them in our upcoming reports.