



Annual Report from District 6
Honorable Judge Lynda Jones

Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee

November 2020 - October 2021

2020



Long time NAWJ member and recipient of the NAWJ Lady Justice Award, **Judge Bernette Joshua Johnson**, is retiring at the end of this year. NAWJ member - a colleague and friend, **Judge Piper Griffin** has been elected to her seat as Associate Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court.



The Honorable Sheva M. Sims of Shreveport City Court, Division D, was appointed to serve on the Louisiana Commission on Justice System Funding by Shreveport City Court Chief Judge Pammela Lallier, President of the Louisiana City Judges Association.

2021



Judge Sharon Massey Grimes takes over for late husband on Montgomery County General Sessions and Juvenile Court.



A 'powerful, powerful statement': Black women dominate in New Orleans judicial races.



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Memphis Municipal Court **Judge Teresa Jones** died on January 2 after a battle with cancer. She was 61. Judge Jones began serving in Division One of Memphis Municipal Court on January 15, 2019, after having been appointed by Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland. She won election to that seat in October 2019.



Shreveport City Court **Judge Sheva M. Sims** has been appointed to serve on the Louisiana Commission on Justice System funding by Shreveport City Court Chief Judge Pammela Lattier, President of the Louisiana City Judges Association.



MS Supreme Court Chief Justice Mike Randolph appointed Pearl River County Court **Judge Richelle Lumpkin** as a member of the Commission on Judicial Performance on Jan. 7. The Chief Justice appointed Rankin County Court Judge Kent McDaniel as an alternate member of the judicial disciplinary body.



Tulane Law alumna & former adjunct law professor **Hon. Bernadette D'Souza (L'92)** has been named Chief Judge of the Orleans Parish Civil District Court.



Judge Melissa Blackburn was elected to serve as Judge of the Division II General Sessions Court, Davidson County Tennessee on August 7, 2014. She also serves as presiding judge of the Mental Health and Veterans Courts. Judge Blackburn is also a part of the NAWJ Volunteer Committee.

New members **Judge Allegra Walker, Judge Ana Escobar, Judge Angie Dalton** and **Judge Rachel Bell** present the Tennessee Color of Justice Program. Over 130 girls attended online April 16 - 18, 2021.



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Judge Allegra Walker was elected to General Sessions Court, Division IV, taking the bench in August 2014, where she is currently serving as one of three judges that preside over the court's domestic violence cases, as well as presiding over Environmental Court. Judge Walker is also a part of the NAWJ Volunteers Committee.



Judge Angelita Blackshear Dalton is Judge of Division II of the Davidson County Criminal Court. Judge Dalton assumed the bench after being appointed by Governor Bill Haslam to succeed Retired Judge J. Randall Wyatt. Judge Dalton is also on the NAWJ 1st Time Attendees Committee



Judge Ana L. Escobar was elected to General Sessions Court, Division III, taking the bench in 2018, where she is currently serving as one of three judges that preside over the court's domestic violence cases. Judge Escobar is also on the NAWJ International Event Committee.



Judge Rachel Bell was elected General Sessions Court Judge, Division VIII (8) in 2012. Shortly, after taking the bench, the General Sessions Music City Community Court was founded. Since its inception, the court has piloted several community initiatives focused on preventive and diversionary justice.



In 2020 **Justice Griffin** was elected to serve as an Associate Justice for District 7 representing portions of both Orleans and Jefferson Parishes, following in the footsteps of Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson and Justice Revis Ortique.



Judge Anne C. Martin was sworn in as a judge on the Davidson County Chancery Court, Part II, on September 1, 2018. On November 1, 2019, the Tennessee Supreme Court appointed Chancellor Martin as the Business Court Docket judge. She is also is volunteering for the NAWJ Hospitality Committee.



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Judge Sheila Calloway was elected Davidson County's Juvenile Court Judge in 2014. Judge Calloway also serves as an Adjunct Professor at Vanderbilt University Law School where she teaches Trial Advocacy, and an Adjunct Professor at Belmont College of Law where she teaches Juvenile Law. She is also a part of the NAWJ Hospitality and Special Events Committee.



Congratulations to Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County General Sessions Court **Judge Lynda Jones**. She was awarded Nashville Cable's Spirit of Leadership award on June 9, 2021. She serves as NAWJ District 6 Director and volunteers on the Friends Committee.



Judge Yvette Alexander (LA) will be sworn in as the 60th President of the AJA. To be held in New Orleans Oct 2 to 5.



Judge Alistair Newbern has served as a U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Middle District of Tennessee since 2016.



Judge Barbara D. Holmes currently serves as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Middle District of Tennessee. Prior to her appointment, Judge Holmes practiced law for almost 30 years in Nashville, Tennessee. She served as Chair of the NAWJ Annual Conference for 2020 and 2021.



Former student member and scholarship recipient **Jasmine Cooper** passed the bar the first time and now is employed at Shreveport City Court as a prosecutor. She also received one of 4 of the first scholarships that were given out in District 6.



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October 2021
Nashville, TN

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October 6 - 9, 2021