

DISTRICT 8 NEWS

Pamela Saindon, Associate Judge for the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, has been officially sworn in as the new District 8 Director, representing Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky.

District 8 held its first meeting under Judge Saindon's leadership on November 20, 2025. During the meeting, members shared their experiences within NAWJ and other judicial organizations, and discussed their individual interests in NAWJ membership, including expanding professional networks and learning from the experiences of fellow judges.

The meeting focused on developing programming that advances NAWJ's mission while fostering meaningful networking opportunities for members. District 8 plans to partner with the Chicago Bar Association, through its President, Judge Nichole Patton, to create an educational program addressing artificial intelligence and its growing impact across legal fields. In addition, members expressed enthusiasm for organizing Color of Justice programs in schools throughout the District.

Members also discussed opportunities for more informal and engaging networking activities across the District 8 states, including: A virtual book club, winery visits in Indiana, and participation in Kentucky Derby-related activities.

In addition, Judge Saindon appointed Judge Sherri Hale as Illinois State Chair. We thank Judge Hale for her willingness to serve and support NAWJ's mission.

The next District 8 meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. Each member has been assigned a list of current and past members to contact and encourage to attend the upcoming meeting.