



June 8, 2022  
Report from District 9  
Honorable Celene Gogerty

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**Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin**

NAWJ member Emily Chafa was honored with a featured article in the Iowa Lawyer magazine this month for her many speaking engagements. She also moderated the NAWJ Administrative Judiciary Committee’s webinar on April 21, 2022, titled “Paths to the Administrative Judiciary: Many Roads, Many Destination”.

Below is a screen shot of Emily’s article. Congratulations Emily!

# SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

## Emily Chafa



The Iowa State Bar Association "Speaker spotlight" series highlights continuing legal education presenters who go above and beyond by volunteering their time and talent for the advancement of Iowa's legal community. This month Emily Chafa is in the spotlight!

Emily Gould Chafa has spent most of her legal career in state and local government practice, retiring in July 2019. She remains actively involved in numerous professional associations, including serving as chair of the ISBA Diversity & Inclusiveness Committee.

Emily attended Wartburg College for one year, and then received her B.A. degree from Drake University in 1982. She received her J.D. degree from Loyola School of Law in Chicago in 1987. She is licensed to practice law in Iowa and Illinois.

Emily is actively involved in several professional associations at the national, state and local level. These include The Iowa State Bar Association, Polk County Bar Association, Blackstone Inn of Court, ABA Judicial Division National Conference of the Administrative Law Judiciary, ABA Civil Rights & Social Justice Section, National Association of Women Judges and Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys. Emily is also a long-time member of the Iowa Supreme Court's Interpreter Advisory Committee. She is an active member of the Infinity Project, a multi-state group advocating for gender equity on the bench throughout the 8th Circuit.

Emily frequently presents CLE programs on a variety of topics, focusing on diversity, equity and inclusion; the importance of preserving the rule of law; voting rights

history; language access; judicial ethics on and off the bench; and administrative hearing processes. She is a frequent speaker on diversity, equity and inclusion for the ISBA, and is one of the driving forces behind the ISBA Diversity & Inclusiveness Committee.

In 2021, Emily presented and organized more than 11 diversity, equity and inclusion presentations for the ISBA. Emily is presenting this May at the Government Practice Seminar on "Effective respectful communications in diverse government workplaces." She will be co-presenting and moderating three annual meeting topics which include "Juneteenth – commemoration and celebration," "Raising awareness: pride, pronouns and gender identity 101" and "Update on HF 802."

Currently, Emily is part of the following ISBA on-demand programs:

- Iowa's new law governing diversity and inclusion training and teaching
- Advancing diversity, equity and inclusion as corporate counsel
- Interrupting bias, welcoming diversity and reclaiming civility: making the Iowa Bar truly welcoming and inclusive

If you would like to nominate an ISBA CLE presenter for the "Speaker spotlight" series, please email [communications@iowabar.org](mailto:communications@iowabar.org)



Emily Chafa presenting an ISBA on-demand CLE program titled "Advancing diversity, equity and inclusion as corporate counsel"



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