THE HONORABLE JOAN V. CHURCHILL



Judge Joan Churchill was President of the National Association of Women Judges for the 2012-2013 year. She previously served in many positions on NAWJ's Board of Directors including President-Elect, Vice President for Districts, Secretary, Projects Director, and District Director for District Four. She joined NAWJ shortly after becoming a judge in 1980, and is a Life Member.

Judge Churchill served for close to 25 years as an Immigration Judge for the Immigration Court for Washington DC/Arlington, VA, during which she served five terms as a Temporary Member of the Board of Immigration Appeals. After working for the Michigan Law School Institute of Continuing Legal Education, and for a short period in solo private practice in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Judge Churchill moved to New York where she worked for the Immigration and Naturalization Service as a Naturalization Attorney. In 1972 she moved home to Washington D.C. to work as a staff attorney for the Board of Immigration Appeals, an administrative appellate tribunal in the U.S. Department of Justice which hears appeals from cases of Immigration Judges. She later had brief stints with the InterAgency Task Force on Immigration Reform, Select Commission on Immigration Reform, and in private practice in Washington DC, before accepting the position of Immigration Judge.

Judge Churchill is a native of Washington D.C.