



## STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF REAUTHORIZATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

The National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) submits this statement in full support of the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). We encourage the reauthorization, just as we have vigorously supported this legislation since its original enactment in 1994.

NAWJ is an organization with over 1,000 members, which includes both men and women, on our nation's trial, appellate, administrative, and tribal courts, as well as attorneys, law professors, and law students committed to our mission of ensuring equal access to justice for all.

Our members know first-hand the effect of violence in the lives of immigrant women and underserved families. Too often these cases have continued to fill our court dockets, and this legislation is essential if we are to continue to go forward.

In addition to addressing the important issues of domestic and sexual violence against women, VAWA has restored hope by providing resources for law enforcement, education, counseling and shelter. NAWJ is and will continue to support such vital legislation which impacts the nation's most vulnerable and underrepresented populations.

Sincerely,

*Hon. Tanya R. Kennedy*

President