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NAWJ Holds Chiefs Luncheon with the CCWI

On Tuesday, July 11, 2006, a Luncheon was held between women leaders of the national judiciary and members of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. NAWJ's leadership was well represented by Marjorie Carter, Nan Duffly, Sue Yang and Joan Churchill, together with Past Presidents Joan Dempsey Klein, Gladys Kessler, Christine Durham, Bernice Donald, Brenda Murray, and Noel Kramer.

Our historic Capitol Luncheon drew an attendance of 25 Chief Justices, Associate Justices, Chief Judges, and other judges from across the country, together with 18 Congresswomen representing states from California to New York, including House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Caucus Co-Chair Hilda Solis. We were particularly pleased by the bipartisan interest in working with NAWJ and the unexpected and welcome attendance of a number of Congresswomen—several of whom, we were told, do not ordinarily attend Caucus events. Twelve of the judges were also able to participate in a highly productive meeting later that afternoon with Senator Dianne Feinstein.


CCWI Members in Attendance

Judy Biggert, IL	Carolyn Maloney, NY
Marsha Blackburn, TN	Doris Matsui, CA
Shelley Moore Capito, WV	Carolyn McCarthy, NY
Lois Capps, CA	Nancy Pelosi, CA
Melissa Hart, PA	Deborah Pryce, OH
Sheila Jackson-Lee, TX	Loretta Sanchez, CA
Eddie Bernice Johnson, TX	Jan Schakowsky, IL
Stephanie Tubbs Jones, OH	Hilda Solis, CA
Marcy Kaptur, OH	Diane Watson, CA

Members of the Judiciary in Attendance

Justice Cynthia A. Baldwin, Pennsylvania Supreme Court
 Justice Nancy A. Becker, Nevada Supreme Court
 Justice Ann Bradley, Supreme Court of Wisconsin
 Justice Susan Calkins, Maine Supreme Judicial Court
 Judge Marjorie Laird Carter, Orange County CA Superior Court and NAWJ VP
 Judge Joan V. Churchill, Immigration Judge, Retired and District 4 Director
 Justice Cornelia Clark, Tennessee Supreme Court
 Judge Bernice Bouie Donald, U.S. District Court, Western District of Tennessee
 Justice Fernande R.V. Duffly, Massachusetts Appeals Court and NAWJ Secretary
 Chief Justice Christine M. Durham, Supreme Court of Utah
 Judge Gladys Kessler, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
 Justice Joan Dempsey Klein, Court of Appeal, Second District, California

Have You Moved to A New Court or A New Home?

If you're not getting e-mail, postal mail, or faxes from us,  it could very well be that we don't know where you are. Don't miss out on anything. If you have recently moved to a new court or a new home, please take a minute and send us an e-mail at nawj@nawj.org to let us know so we can update our membership database.

The Staff at National

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Upcoming Events

Judge Noel Anketell Kramer, District of Columbia Court of Appeals
 Justice Elizabeth B. Lacy, Supreme Court of Virginia
 Chief Judge Brenda P. Murray, United States Securities & Exchange Commission
 Judge Rosemary S. Pooler, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit
 Judge Vanessa Ruiz, District of Columbia Court of Appeals and NAWJ President
 Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears, Supreme Court of Georgia
 Judge Norma L. Shapiro, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of PA
 Justice Miriam Shearing, Former Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Nevada
 Justice Laura Denvir Stith, Chief Justice Elect, Supreme Court of Missouri
 Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson, North Carolina Supreme Court
 Chief Judge (Ret.) Patricia McGowan Wald, U.S. Court of Appeals District of Columbia
 Judge Sue Pai Yang, New Jersey Workers' Compensation Court and NAWJ District Director

It is a tribute to NAWJ and those judges who were able to attend that we were able to stimulate such an impressive turn-out by Caucus members. The Congressional response certainly owes in large part to two "Dear Colleague" letters--the first signed by Reps. Hilda Solis (D-CA), Deborah Pryce (R-OH), and Stephanie Tubbs Jones (D-OH), who were then joined in the second letter by the Caucus Republican Co-Chair Ginny Brown-Waite (R-FL). It was, however, NAWJ's ability to marshal such an impressive, nonpartisan array of outstanding women judicial leaders that seems to have convinced those Congressional leaders to sign the letters and persuaded their colleagues that this was a meeting they did not want to miss. To the surprise of the Caucus organizers, the Congresswomen not only they came, but they stayed. We could not have had a warmer welcome by Rep. Solis on behalf of the Caucus, and by the unexpectedly active participation and generous remarks of Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi.

Several NAWJ leaders and a number of Congresswomen, including Rep. Solis and the upcoming 110th Congress Caucus' Democratic Co-Chair, Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA), agreed that we should hold this luncheon again next year, with maximum notice to all invitees and pursuant to a mutually agreed-upon substantive agenda. Caucus leaders were receptive to the idea of creating a small committee of representatives from the two branches to hammer out the appropriate scheduling, format and substance of the meeting. We are currently in the process of putting the committee together, and have every hope that the July 11th Luncheon will be the First Annual National Women's Judicial/Legislative Luncheon.

Look for a full write-up in the next issue of Counterbalance.

NAWJ would like to extend a very special thank you to Fulbright & Jaworski LLP and Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, LLP for sponsoring the luncheon, and to Estelle Rogers for generously offering her home for the welcome dinner reception on July 10.

Program Announced for New Judges at the 28th Annual Conference

This year, we are extending a special welcome to newer judges--those of you who, within the past year or two, have newly become trial or appellate judges. In hopes of easing your transition into your new (or relatively new) judicial role, we urge you to attend "Essential Tools for the New (and not so new) Judge," which will be presented on the first day of the Conference, Wednesday, October 4th, from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Sponsored by New Judges Committee Co-Chairs Judge Ellen Gesmer of New York and Judge Sue Kurita of Texas, this soup-to-nuts interactive panel discussion will also include among its panelists Alaska Chief Justice (and NAWJ Projects Committee Chair) Dana Fabe, and will focus on tough and sensitive issues facing you in: Making the Transition; Finding a Mentor and Other Supportive Resources; Getting and Staying Organized; Maintaining Control in the Courtroom/Judicial Demeanor; Handling Special Problems of Unrepresented Litigants; and Making and Writing Decisions and Orders. Be sure to participate in the inaugural offering of this new program, and bring all your friends.

NAWJ 2006 Conference

The 2006 National Summit on Performance Management for the Judiciary

August 14 -15, 2006
Arlington VA

Virginia Chapter Meeting

August 15, 2006
Virginia Beach VA

Genome Justice, Virginia Judges Association's annual conference

August 16, 2006
Virginia Beach VA

Are you keeping up with all NAWJ events? If not, check out our NAWJ website at

<http://www.nawj.org>

Announcements

We've Moved!

NAWJ's National Office in DC has moved to Dupont Circle. Our new address is 1341 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 4.2, Washington DC 20036. Please note the suite number was incorrect in the June *Monthly Update*. If you're ever in the area, please stop by and check out our new office.

Washington State Domestic Violence Hope Card Committee Needs Your Help

Gloria C. Hemmen, Executive Director of the Washington State Gender and Justice Commission, has been asked to serve on their new legislative Domestic Violence Hope Card Committee. The Committee is tasked with studying the advisability

Have You Registered Yet?
Join Us for the NAWJ 2006 Annual Conference!
"Justice Perceived and Achieved"

RIO ALL-SUITES HOTEL
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
October 4 - 8, 2006

To view the full draft agenda visit:

http://www.nawj.org/2006_conference/2006_conference.html

Rooms are going fast! Call today!

LODGING: Rooms at the Rio All-Suites Hotel & Casino have been guaranteed at the rate of \$175.00 plus tax, single or double occupancy. This rate is available from October 1 through October 10.

For reservations, call 1-888-746-6955. State that you are with the National Association of Women Judges conference (#S10NAW6). Reservations must be made on or before **September 19, 2006**, to guarantee the conference rate (subject to availability).

To register for the conference, contact:

Justice Miriam Shearing, Conference Chair
shearing@nvcourts.state.nv.us

You can also register online at:

http://www.nawj.org/2006_conference/2006_conference.html

REMINDER: NAWJ Nominating Committee Seeking Applicants

of providing to all recipients of protection orders, who are victims of domestic violence, wallet-sized cards that would provide to law enforcement all information necessary to enforce the protection order. Ms. Hemmen would like information about Domestic Violence Hope Card Programs in other states. You may reach her at:

Gloria C. Hemmen,
Executive Director
Gender and Justice
Commission
Washington State
Administrative Office of
the Courts
PO Box 41170
Olympia, WA
98504-1170
360/705-5290 FAX
360/586-8869

The Nominating Committee of the National Association of Women Judges is seeking nominations for the following positions for the 2006-2007 term:

President-Elect
Vice President for Districts
Vice President for Publications
Secretary
Treasurer

We invite you to nominate yourself or another member (with her consent) for any of these offices. Please submit a letter stating the roles the nominee has played in NAWJ activities, including particular accomplishments you wish to bring to the committee's attention, and the nominee's curriculum vita. The letter also should include a paragraph on the strengths the nominee would bring to the leadership of the organization. Current officers seeking a different office, or a second term in the case of the Vice President positions, must submit a letter of nomination. Only voting members in good standing are eligible to hold office; this now includes retired judges who remain subject to the canons of judicial conduct

The President-elect must have served a term as Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary, or as Chair of the Projects Committee, the Resource Development Committee, or the Finance Committee.

Nominating Committee members are listed below. Please address letters to the Chair and send a copy to each committee member.

Hon. Sandra Thompson
Chair, Nominating Committee
1112 16th Street, NW, #520
Washington, DC 20036
Fax: (202) 365-5033 - OR - E-mail: nawj@nawj.org

Members of the Nominating Committee:

Chair - Sandra Thompson, CA - judgesthompson@yahoo.com
Joan V. Churchill, MD - churchil@erols.com
Dana Fabe, AK - dfabe@appellate.courts.state.ak.us
Linda K.M. Ludgate, PA - lludgate@countyofberks.com
Karla Moskowitz, NY - kmoskowi@courts.state.ny.us
Linda Strite Murnane, KY - Kmurmane98@aol.com
Nina M. Radakovich, GA - ninaradakovich@bellsouth.net
Anna Blackburne Rigsby, DC - Blackria@dcsc.gov
Miriam P. Rykken, MN - mrykken@wcca.state.mn.us
Bea Ann Smith, TX - bea.smith@3rdcoa.courts.state.tx.us

Want to Represent NAWJ on ABA Committee?

Are you interested in representing NAWJ on the ABA Committee on Judicial Selection and Retention of Juvenile Judges?

A new ABA Committee on Judicial Selection and Retention of Juvenile Judges, which will be examining ways to attract and retain judges with a deep interest in juvenile issues, including especially abuse and neglect, and will be drafting recommendations designed to enhance the ability of the courts to attract and retain such judges. The Committee will meet primarily by monthly or bi-monthly conference calls, with perhaps one face-to-face meeting. Anyone interested should contact Dru Ramey, NAWJ Executive Director, at dstender77@aol.com.

Counterbalance Update

Call for Submissions – Counterbalance Fall 2006

The deadline for the next issue of *Counterbalance* has been extended and is now **September 10, 2006**. Look for the Fall 2006 issue after the Annual Conference. If you have articles, announcements, or events that you'd like included, please pass them

along to Stephanie Brown at sbrown@nawj.org. When submitting articles for review, please refer to the following guidelines:

- E-mail documents are preferred. You may attach either a Word or WordPerfect document, or include the text in the body of your e-mail. You may attach photos along with the document to ensure I receive your entire submission package. See guidance on photos below.
- When sending submissions, please include "For Counterbalance" in the subject line. If you have an idea where you'd like your submission placed (District News, Awards & Recognition, etc.), please feel free to let us know.
- Please submit a complete article. If you have information from some other source (article, newsletter, Web site, etc.) that you want included, please place that information in your article rather than making reference to it.
- If you have photos you would like to accompany your submission, please attach the photo files (.JPG, .GIF, .BMP, etc.) and include a caption in the body of the e-mail (e.g., image1.jpg – Judge Jane Doe presents award to John Doe). Please do not insert photos into your articles. If you must send a PDF document from which you would like me to extract a photo(s), please indicate which photo(s). Please remember that the higher the quality of the image (directly from a camera or scanner), the better the print quality.
- Copyright restrictions do apply even though we are a non-profit organization. Unfortunately, NAWJ cannot reproduce articles from newspapers or Web sites unless you own the rights or have been granted reprint permission. If you just want to include a summary from the source, please write and submit it as you would an article you had written yourself.

These procedures will help Stephanie keep track of everything and make sure nothing gets lost or overlooked. If you have any questions or problems getting something to Stephanie, please don't hesitate to call (202/393-0222) or e-mail (sbrown@nawj.org) Stephanie is extremely comfortable with computers and willing to help in any way she can to ensure a smooth operation.

Submitting Events for the NAWJ Web Calendar

Keep NAWJ Up-to-Date on your local activities!

If you would like to post events on the NAWJ Web calendar or in *Counterbalance*, please send an e-mail with "**NAWJ Calendar Submission**" in the subject line to sbrown@nawj.org and include the following information (in this format) in the body of that e-mail—

Event date:
Event time:
Event title:
Event description:
Contact:
Location:

E-mails without the above information may cause a delay or error in posting. You may attach flyers or registration forms to be posted along with your event, but it is most helpful if you can extract the required information and present it in the above format. Events are automatically included in the most current issue of *Counterbalance* if submitted by the deadline. Thank you for your help.

About NAWJ

The National Association of Women Judges is a non-profit organization which has for 27 years served as the nation's leading voice for jurists dedicated to preserving judicial independence; ensuring equal justice and access to the courts for women, minorities and other historically disfavored groups; providing judicial education on cutting-edge issues; and increasing the numbers and advancement of women judges at all levels to more accurately reflect their full participation in a democratic society. For more information, visit www.nawj.org or call 202.393.0222.