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July 15th Fourth Annual Meeting Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues National Women Leaders of the Judiciary

A Wonderful Success!!!

On the morning of July 15, 2009 NAWJ President La Tia W. Martin and Meeting Chair Judge Juanita Bing Newton, Dean of the New York State Judicial Institute, together with 111th Congress' Caucus for Women's Issues Co-Chairs Rep. Janice Schakowsky of Illinois and Rep. Mary Fallin of Oklahoma hosted a revelatory exchange on pressing international and domestic challenges for women and girls in the world today. Nearly 60 judges, representatives, lawyers, government officials and bipartisan congressional staff were on hand for our Fourth Annual Breakfast Meeting between the National Association of Women Judges and the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. The event took place inside the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

The meeting was opened with a warm welcome from Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, who urged us all to move the U.S. to sign on to the United Nations' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly and often described as an international bill of rights for women; Congresswoman Mary Fallin's reminded everyone that all corners of our political system are open and ready to continue the advancement of women.

Christina M. Tchen, Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement and Executive Director of the newly created White House Council of Women and Girls offered a spirited charge to continue the pursuit of equality and justice for women. She also advised that the

administration of President Barack Obama was interested in seeking outstanding women and minority candidates for various positions.

Greetings were then given by Hilda Solis, Secretary of Labor and former member of the House of Representatives who has used her outstanding leadership efforts to advance initiatives for women, girls and under-represented groups.

Melanne Verveer, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues delivered the Keynote Address on Violence Against Women: A Domestic and International Perspective. She focused on the need to recognize that women's rights are human rights and outlined the diplomatic efforts being made towards that end. A lively and informative question and answer period followed her remarks. In response to the exchange of information, NAWJ President challenged our organization to develop local program events throughout our 14 Districts designed to educate our membership and others on the need to address international and local domestic violence issues.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, introduced by NAWJ President Martin, stated that the efforts of NAWJ have resulted in the increase of women in the legal profession thereby changing the face of justice in America. The speaker remained at the meeting after her remarks and personally greeted all in attendance with enthusiasm and good cheer.

The sponsors for the successful Meeting included: Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P., Linda Morgan, Esq., National Association of Women Lawyers, Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP and the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia.

Nominating Committee Seeks Nominations for 2009-2010 NAWJ Board of Directors Positions

The Nominating Committee of the National Association of Women Judges is seeking nominations for the following positions for the 2009-2010 term:

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

International Director (2 yr term: October, 2009 to October, 2011)

ABA Delegate (completion of term: October, 2008 to October, 2010)

The duties of these positions are set out in the Bylaws, Art. X (Duties of Officers) and Art. VIII (Representatives of Other Organizations.)

Only voting members in good standing are eligible to hold office, which 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. Candidates for the position of

President-Elect should also address their plans to continue and build on NAWJ's existing programs and implement NAWJ's Long-Range Strategic Plan (2007-2012), which can be found at NAWJ's website.

Members of the Nominating Committee:

Hon. Anna Blackburne-Rigsby/District 4/District of Columbia Court of Appeals
Hon. Darcel Clark/District 2/Bronx Supreme Court, New York
Hon. Sandra Farragut-Hemphill, District 9/St. Louis County Circuit Court, Missouri
Hon. Joan Irion/District 14/ California Court of Appeals
Hon. Marcia Krieger/District 12/U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
Hon. Rosalind Malloy/District 3/ U.S. Department of Justice, Pennsylvania
Hon. Denise Owens/District 6/Chancery Court, Fifth Judicial District, Mississippi
Hon. Shirley Tolentino/District 3/Superior Court of New Jersey
Hon. Shirley Troutman/District 2/Erie County Court, New York

Individual nominations and nominations by petition must be submitted to the Nominating Committee by August 17, 2009. Please address letters to:

Hon. Fernande R.V. Duffly
Chair, Nominating Committee
National Association of Women Judges
1341 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
Fax: (202) 393-0125 - OR - E-mail: nawj@nawj.org

**West, a Thomson Reuter Business
Funds NAWJ Law School Student Scholarships**

We are very pleased to announce that West has committed \$10,000 over two years for the Equal Access to Justice Scholarship Fund. Five thousand dollars of this award will be presented to a law school student in Memphis at the NAWJ Annual Conference Keynote Luncheon featuring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor on Thursday October 15th.

NAWJ awards Equal Access to Justice Scholarships to law school students with a demonstrated financial need and a commitment to community service. Grade point average is also a consideration.

With the additional generous support from West, NAWJ will be able to provide additional financial assistance to well-deserved law school students.

LexisNexis Announces Legal Search Engine Lexis Web

LexisNexis announces a newly created free legal search engine called Lexis Web. Lexis Web provides navigation tools to help individuals search for legal resources on the Web and at lexis.com. All access is free. To assure authoritative and accurate content, the LexisNexis editorial staff hand-selected all legal-oriented web content.

For more information contact Jeanine Krzyzanowski, Search Analyst at LexisNexis by telephone 908-771-8603 or email jeanine.krzyzanowski@lexisnexis.com.

Counterbalance Fall Issue

The deadline for Counterbalance submissions is August 1st. All District Reports and other editorial submissions copy and pictures should be sent to Lavinia Cousin at lcousin@nawj.org.

NAWJ Member Judge Technophile Needed For Annual Conference in Memphis

For NAWJ's Annual Conference in Memphis this year we are planning a program on electronic communications consisting of those involved in courtroom proceedings, such as jurors, witnesses, parties, spectators, and judges. We are seeking an NAWJ member who participates in blogging, twittering, 'facebooking', and the like, to be on the panel for our program. If you have also dealt with those issues in the courtroom, that would be even better!

Please email Judge Holly Kirby at Judge.Holly.Kirby@tncourts.gov if you are interested. Thanks!

For more detailed information on the Conference see below.

Register Today!!

Justice on the River, Navigating Change

**NAWJ 31st Annual Conference
October 15-18, 2009
Memphis, Tennessee**

**Keynote Luncheon Speaker
Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (Retired)
Thursday October 15th**

Hon. La Tia W. Martin
H. Dorse
NY State Supreme Court
NAWJ President
Chair

Hon. Janice M. Holder
Tennessee Supreme Court
Conference Co-Chair

Hon. Earnestine
Memphis City Court
Conference Co-Chair

Education Chair: Hon. Bernice B. Donald, U.S. District Court, Western TN

Educational Program Topic Highlights

Immigration * Implicit Bias * Bankruptcy * Law and Literature * Judicial Independence *
Developing our Authentic Leadership * Open Courts and Secret Settlements * Gender Bias in
Media Coverage * Judicial Productivity and Stress Management * International Technical
Assistance and Outreach * Emerging Issues in Litigation Resulting from New Legislation * Role
of the Courts in Overseeing Executive Functions in Difficult Economic Times

Register to attend the conference at WWW.NAWJ.ORG.

Reserve your accommodations by calling 1-800-PEABODY (Press 2) and identifying our
group name National Association of Women Judges. The NAWJ room block is limited and the
rate is subject to availability.

For more information: Tel: (202) 393 -0222 E-mail: nawj@nawj.org

Friends Committee

Co-chair: Jeana Littrell, FedEx Express
Co-chair: Jill Steinberg, Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

Conference Sponsors

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Tals Legal Professionals of Tennessee
Taylor, Pigue, Marchetti & Mink PLLC
Tennessee Association of Legal Professionals
Mr. Gary Veazey

The NAWJ International Opportunity Network

Have you heard of the NAWJ International Opportunity Network? NAWJ's International Director, Judge Carolyn Engel Temin, is constantly on the lookout for international opportunities for Judges. As Judge Temin became aware, she informed NAWJ and we email the information out to the NAWJ International Opportunity Network. If you are not currently receiving the notifications and you are interested on hearing about these opportunities let Jeff Groton know today. You can reach him at jgroton@nawj.org.

Make Donation to NAWJ Online!

By contributing to the National Association of Women Judges you will be supporting us in promoting the judicial role in protecting the rights of individuals under the rule of law through strong, committed, diverse judicial leadership, fairness and equality in the courts, and equal access to justice.

Since 1979, National Association of Women Judges has grown into a unique composition of dedicated members who champion equal access to justice through development of women in the judiciary. NAWJ successfully:

- Conducts cutting-edge judicial education programs on immigrants in court, bioethics, child custody, family violence, the problems of women in the criminal justice system, genome justice, and other important issues;
- Provides judicial outreach programs and leadership training for judges and judicial educators;
- Presents a forum for interacting and networking with judges from all levels of state, federal, administrative, military and tribal courts, as well as international tribunals; and
- Honors individuals for significant legal, judicial and leadership contributions.

NAWJ is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational non-profit association, and your donation is fully tax-deductible having been made without any exchange of goods or services of any material value. For your convenience, a donation may be made to NAWJ either online or by directly calling the national office at (202)393-0222.

Judge Barbara Zúñiga Assumes Role as NAWJ's Delegate to the American Bar Association

NAWJ Past President Judge Barbara Zúñiga has been selected by the NAWJ Executive Committee to fill the role of NAWJ delegate to the American Bar Association left vacant by Judge Cara Lee Neville. Judge Zuniga has previously held this position, and will serve until elections occur at the Annual Conference in October, 2009.

Former NAWJ ABA Delegate Judge Cara Lee Neville resigned from the position to assume a role within the American Bar Association itself.