

- 2009-2010 National Association of Women Judges Board of Directors Announced
- Highlights from *Justice on the River: Navigating Change*, NAWJ's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference
- NAWJ Past President Brenda Murray Receives L'Oreal Company's 'Points of Light' Award
- 2010 NAWJ Mid Year Meeting and Leadership Conference, March 11-14<sup>th</sup>, Washington, D.C.
- NAWJ President Dana Fabe Announced Golden Gate University 2010 Distinguished Lecturer
- American Bar Association Appellate Judges Education Institute Summit
- GAO Seeks Board Members for Personnel Appeals Board
- Support NAWJ - Make Your Year End Donation Online!

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## **The National Association of Women Judges 2009-2010 Board of Directors**

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**Memphis' Southern Charm Animates NAWJ's 31st Annual Conference**

**Justice on the River: Navigating Change** (Click her to view Photo Gallery)

Memphis, Tennessee's historic and stunning Peabody Hotel was the site of the National Association of Women Judges' 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference this year. A stellar list of program speakers and panelists included legal stars from the judiciary and higher educational institutions, corporate experts, and many local dignitaries and guests. Former United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, proud NAWJ member, gave an inspiring keynote address to hundreds at an opening gala. Conference attendees included members from throughout the United States and around the world. Conference Co-Chairs, Memphis City Court Judge Earnestine Dorse and Tennessee State Supreme Court Chief Justice Janice Holder, with Education Chair Judge Bernice Donald of the U.S. District Court for Western Tennessee joined then NAWJ President Justice La Tia W. Martin in presenting over four days of exceptional educational programs, exciting social events, and travels to historic venues. The NAWJ's 31st

Annual Conference *Justice on the River: Navigating Change* drew approximately 400 participants who had the benefit of choosing from exploring current developments in the law, technology, finance, literature, mental health, and international opportunities to name a few. All 21 sessions were led by exceptional panels of specialists in their field.

The Memphis Planning Committee set the tone for our Annual Conference with a big warm, hospitality event called “Dine Around,” where local 'Friends of NAWJ' graciously opened their homes and kitchens to attendees offering delicious meals, great conversation and open hands in friendship. Nineteen homes participated in this delightful event and by all accounts the Dine Around was a fantastic, memorable evening for those lucky enough to be aboard! Among the many generous hosts was the family of Stephen Hale of the Memphis firm Hale • Dewey • Knight PLLC, who excelled at merging fine dining, good storytelling and genuine munificence. All Dine Around participants shared similarly memorable tales and good cheer. The next evening at the Center for Southern Folklore attendees basked in that rare sight of dancing judges. Ribs, macaroni and cheese, corn bread and greens could not stop the 'happy feet' of participants moving to the sounds of one of Memphis' leading blues and rock band.

One of the nation's most historic and emotionally moving museums can be found at the Lorraine Motel, site of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. There, the National Civil Rights Museum chronicles key episodes of the American Civil Rights movement through a collection of historical items, exhibitions and education programs. Before dinner attendees viewed 'The Witness', conference keynote speaker Rev. Samuel “Billy” Kyles, pastor of Monumental Baptist Church, remembrance of sharing the last days of Dr. King from collaboration on the sanitation's workers march, to the events leading up to and firsthand experience of hearing Dr. King's Mountaintop speech, to his account of sharing the balcony at the Lorraine Motel on April 4, 1968 with Dr. King that fateful day.

The week's events would not have been possible without the efforts of Friends Committee Co-Chairs FedEx Express Legal Director Jeana Littrell, and Jill Steinberg of Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz. Ms. Littrell's outstanding logistical and personnel support throughout the Conference was nonpareil in making this year's Conference a success.

The Conference's final day concluded with a Business Meeting at which NAWJ members voted in the 2009-2010 nomination slate and welcomed new District directors.

Congratulations to Alaska Supreme Court Justice Dana Fabe, NAWJ's next President! To read her [address click here](#).

During the Annual Awards Banquet 2009 NAWJ Award recipients were recognized: Joan Dempsey Klein Honoree of the Year to Justice Sonia Sotomayor; Florence K. Murray Award to Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin; Justice Vaino Spencer Leadership Award to Justice Betty J. Williams; and the Mattie Belle Davis Award to Judge Shelia Johnson. Congratulations to all!

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## **Women in Prison Co-Chair Brenda Murray Needs Your Vote!**

Help Win \$25,000 for the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women College Degree Program Inc.

Vote for MURRAY at

[WWW.WOMENOFWORTH.COM](http://WWW.WOMENOFWORTH.COM)

November 9-24, 2009

THANK YOU!

Women in Prison Co-Chair Brenda Murray Receives L'Oreal Company's 'Points of Light' Award

In recognition of NAWJ's impressive work with the State of Maryland through joint education programs with Anne Arundel Community College at Maryland's Correctional Institute for Women, Administrative Law Judge Brenda P. Murray, the program's spearhead and champion will receive the Point of Light Award made possible by the L'Oreal Company. One of ten winners, Judge Murray will receive \$5,000 to grant to the charity of her choice, and the opportunity to compete for another, even grander Award. The Awards Banquet will take place in New York City in December.

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### **SAVE THE DATE**

NAWJ MIDYEAR MEETING AND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

March 11-14, 2010

Washington, D.C.

### **CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Fifth Annual Joint Meeting with the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues

Focus of Caucus: This occasion will bring together leading women jurists, including our Executive Committee, with Congressional Women leaders to discuss violence against women, and to continue building unique, meaningful relationships with mutual understanding between leaders of our two branches of government.

NAWJ 2010 Gala Dinner

Speakers: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, United States Supreme Court

The Right Honorable Baroness Brenda Marjorie Hale of Richmond, DBE, PC  
United Kingdom

Moderator: Professor Judith Resnik, Arthur Liman Professor of Law, Yale Law School

Presentation of the NAWJ Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Scholarship.

Friday, March 12, 2010

Program: Law, Justice and the Holocaust at The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Overview: Attendees will have a private guided tour of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, followed by a program at the museum that will explore the failure of judges and those in the legal profession to protect the millions of persons who were left vulnerable to the racist and anti-Semitic ideology of the Nazi regime. A fascinating multi-media historical presentation will examine the judicial response to the key decrees and legislative acts that facilitated the Nazis' ability to carry out their agenda. This will be followed by a discussion exploring the role of the judiciary in modern society and the need for judicial courage and independence.

Luncheon at the The Fairfax Hotel

Saturday, March 13, 2010

NAWJ Board Training  
NAWJ Board Meeting  
Evening Judicial Reception

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**NAWJ President Dana Fabe Announced 2010 Distinguished Lecturer at Golden Gate University School of Law**

Former NAWJ Executive Director, Drucilla Ramey, in her first act as Dean of Golden Gate University School of Law has instituted the Chief Justice Ronald M. George Distinguished Lectureship, which will annually feature an address by a distinguished state Chief Justice. NAWJ Member California State Supreme Court Chief Justice Ron George graciously agreed to inaugurate the Keynote Address on October 20, 2009 at Golden Gate University in San Francisco. NAWJ President-Elect Dana Fabe has been honored as the 2010 Distinguished Lecturer.

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## **American Bar Association Appellate Judges Education Institute Summit November 19-22, Lake Buena Vista, Florida**

The American Bar Association is planning the Appellate Judges Education Institute Summit, November 19-22, 2009 in Orlando, Florida. This seminar will focus on the challenges facing appellate judges and lawyers. Featured speakers will include Judge Diane Wood of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, Dean Kenneth Starr, Professor Pamela Karlan, Dean Erwin Chemerinsky and a host of appellate judges, lawyers and staff attorneys from across the country.

The conference is Thursday, November 19 to Sunday, November 22 at the Regal Sun Resort, in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. The AJEI has been able to secure tremendous group rates, starting at just \$89.00/nt. We encourage people to book early! The hotel contact information is Regal Sun Resort (800) 624-4109 or (407) 828-4444, 1850 Hotel Plaza Blvd. Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32830.

More seminar details can be found soon at [www.law.smu.edu/AJEI](http://www.law.smu.edu/AJEI). Registration for ABA members is \$475 - CASA, \$575 - Judges, and \$675 - CAL. Non-ABA members are an additional \$50. The registration form and more information will be posted at [www.law.smu.edu/AJEI](http://www.law.smu.edu/AJEI).

For online reservations, please go to <http://www.regalsunresort.com> and enter Attendee Code: AJEI1109.

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## **GAO Seeks Board Members for Personnel Appeals Board**

JDG Associates has been retained by the Government Accountability Office's Personnel Appeals Board (PAB) to identify individuals with expertise in employment and labor law to be members of the Board responsible for adjudication of personnel appeals. Given that this is a part-time opportunity, we are focusing on identifying retired attorneys with experience in federal personnel matters.

Board members are typically appointed for 5-year terms and work approximately 30-40 days per year. They will hear and make final decisions on complaints filed by GAO employees or applicants for employment with GAO. Contact Walter Sczudlo for a position announcement. Please also feel free to share this note with others in your professional networks.

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### **Support NAWJ - Make Your Donations Online!**

Next month you will receive NAWJ's Annual Year-End Fund Drive letter in support of activities of the organization in the next fiscal year and to help raise critical general operating support for NAWJ.

Our goal this year is to obtain 100% participation from every member making as generous a personal tax-deductible charitable gift to NAWJ as possible individually, via a family foundation or other grant-making organization with which you may associated.

Your strong show of support will help to demonstrate the strong commitment and united support to NAWJ and the inherent need for continuing our mission of 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.

### **More Events**

NAWJ 2010 Annual Conference  
San Francisco, Open Your Golden Gates!

October 13-17, 2010

A Focus on Children, Family and the Elderly  
Grand Hyatt San Francisco, Union Square