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NAWJ 2006 Conference

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**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE AND LATE REGISTRATION: Registration forms postmarked or faxed after the registration deadline of September 3, 2006, must include a \$50 late registration fee.

To view the full draft agenda and more 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

Registration forms are available online at:
http://www.nawj.org/2006_conference/2006_conference.html

Program Announced for New Judges at the 28th Annual Conference
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.


NAWJ Latest News

[Welcome New Landmark Sponsors](#)

Thank you!

Coblentz, Patch, Duffy & Bass LLP
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

NAWJ President Honored With Latina Leader Award

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 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Note the new program time.

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.

Candidates for 2006-2007 Board of Directors Announced

The NAWJ Nominations Committee presents the following candidates for 2006-2007 Board of Directors:

President

Hon. Brenda Stith Loftin (automatically assumes office)
St. Louis County Circuit Court, MO

President-elect

Hon. Fernande R.V. Duffly
Massachusetts Appeals Court

Vice President/Districts

Hon. Margret G. Robb
Indiana Court of Appeals

Vice President/Publications

Hon. La Tia Martin
Bronx County Supreme Court, NY

Secretary

Hon. Joan K. Irion
State of Calif., 4th Appellate Dist., Division One

Treasurer

Hon. Marjorie Laird Carter
Orange County Superior Court, CA

ABA Delegate

Hon. Cara Lee Neville
Hennepin County District Court, MN
(Delegate shall assume office the following odd numbered year at the conclusion of the ABA annual meeting.)

This notice is being circulated to the voting membership, under By-Laws Article IX (page 74 of the 2006 Membership Directory), for election at the general session of the Annual Business Meeting in October 2006, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

NAWJ Awards Nominations

Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis (CA-32) and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute have joined forces to recognize the accomplishments of outstanding Hispanic women in their respective professional arenas, and their impact on the Hispanic community. Congratulations to NAWJ President Judge Vanessa Ruiz, DC Court of Appeals, who will receive the Latina Leader Award in Law for her notable contributions in the field which have helped the advancement of the Hispanic community and served as an inspiration to countless young people.

NAWJ Member Appointed to New ABA Committee

Chief Justice Martha Grace, Juvenile Court Department, Boston MA, has been appointed NAWJ representative to the ABA Standards on Selection, Retention, and Assignment of Judges in Child Welfare Litigation Project. Thank you to all of the highly experienced judges--and there were many--who expressed interest.

[Download the Latest Issue of Counterbalance \(PDF\)](#)

Upcoming Events

[Experiences of Women Jurists](#)

September 13, 2006
New York, NY

[NAWJ District 4 - Dinner Business Meeting](#)

The NAWJ Awards Committee is seeking nominations for two awards, descriptions of the awards can be found below, to be given at the 28th Annual Conference. All nominations have to be submitted by e-mail or fax no later than Friday 9/8. The nomination should state the name and position of the nominee and a statement of why the nominee is worthy of the award.

Email: nawj@nawj.org
Fax: 202-393-0125

NAWJ Awards Descriptions

The Joan Dempsey Klein NAWJ Honoree of the Year Award

This award is to honor a judge who brings distinction to her office and to the NAWJ as exemplified by our founding mother, Justice Joan Dempsey Klein.

The Florence K. Murray Award

This award was instituted by its namesake, the Honorable Florence K. Murray, for presentation to a non-judge who, by example or otherwise, has influenced women to pursue legal careers, opened doors for women attorneys, or advanced opportunities for women within the legal profession.

Notice of Proposed By-Law Change

At the annual meeting of the membership on NAWJ in October, 2006, the By-law committee will ask the membership to consider and to approve the following change to the By-Laws.

Add to Article III
Membership

Section 5. Honorary Members

Honorary Memberships, for the period of one year, may be given to a person selected by the organization, and approved by the President. Honorary members do not pay dues and are ineligible to vote or hold office.

This notice is being circulated to the voting membership for consideration at the general session of the Annual Business Meeting in October 2006, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

2006 Access to Justice Scholarship Winners

The National Association of Women Judges Access to Justice Scholarship is awarded to law students who have demonstrated a sustained and passionate commitment to the achievement of equality of opportunity and access in the system of justice.

The 2006 Access to Justice Scholarship recipients are:

1. Ms. Sabrina Williams from the Charleston School of Law
2. Ms. LaTanya R. Harry from the Rutgers Law School-Newark
3. Ms. Ciara Williams from the University of Texas Law School
4. Ms. Emily Costa White from the CUNY Law School
5. Ms. Melissa M. Malloy from the Roger Williams University School of Law
6. Ms. Summer J. Martin from the Roger Williams University School of Law
7. Ms. Jennifer A. Mehaffey from the Roger Williams University School of Law
8. Ms. Weayonnoh J. Nelson from the Roger Williams University School of Law
9. Ms. Hinna M. Upal from the Roger Williams University School of Law
10. Ms. Geneva L. Williams from the Drake University Law School
11. Ms. Jamie Kay Ford from the William Mitchell College of Law
12. Ms. Heather L. Howard from the Northern Kentucky University Salmon P. Chase College of Law

Counterbalance Update

Call for Submissions – Counterbalance Fall 2006

September 14, 2006
Washington, DC

Law School Outreach

September 19, 2006
Baltimore, MD

NAWJ/Caucus Dinner

September 21, 2006
Boston, MA

Maryland Chapter Dinner Meeting

September 28, 2006
Maryland

Color of Justice Program

September 30, 2006
Covington, KY

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. Our new address is 1341 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 4.2, Washington DC 20036. If you're ever in the area, please stop by and check out our new office.

Corrections

Judge Leslie Alden of the Fairfax County Circuit Court, VA, was inadvertently left off of the list of members of the judiciary who attended the July 11th luncheon between women leaders of the national judiciary and members of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues.

The deadline for the next issue of *Counterbalance* has been extended and is now **September 15, 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.