



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES COUNTERBALANCE

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L-R, NAWJ President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, Justice Barbara Pariente and former Chief Justice Marsha Ternus at the National Constitution Center Town Hall.

INFORMED VOTERS/FAIR JUDGES PROJECT RAISES AWARENESS ON JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE AND WINS AN EMMY

The National Association of Women Judges' Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project (IVP), the brainchild of California Appeals Court Justice Joan Irion, was officially launched on January 1, 2014. Two weeks later, with the assistance of Resource Board member Harriet Wesig, Landmark Sponsor LexisNexis hosted the virtual opening of IVP's nonpartisan civics education campaign with its Emmy award winning public service announcement "Fair and Free," narrated by longtime NAWJ member U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Earlier this year, the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) unanimously passed a resolution expressing support for IVP's goal of educating the public on the role of the judiciary as a co-equal branch of government and encouraged state supreme courts, judicial associations, and all groups dedicated to a fair and impartial judiciary to participate actively in building public awareness for IVP. Three hundred and twenty three online publications covered the adoption of the resolution by the CCJ supporting IVP, and several partners, including the Brennan Center for Justice, included the announcement in their electronic newsletters.

IVP recently welcomed the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association as a project partner. Judicial Division judges will soon join NAWJ District Directors and other ABA members in voter education presentations in eight target states: Alaska, California, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Tennessee and Washington. Other IVP partners include the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Judicial Independence, American Board of Trial Advocates, American Constitution Society, American Judges Association, American Judicature Society, Association of Business Trial Lawyers, Brennan Center for Justice, DRI [founded in 1960 as the Defense Research Institute], Hispanic National Bar Association, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System, Justice at Stake, League of Women Voters, National Asian Pacific, National Bar Association, National Bar Association Judicial Council Division, National Center for State Courts, National Constitution Center, and Our Courts America Project.

On June 9, 2014, IVP took center stage at the National Constitution Center (NCC), a leading forum for constitutional dialogue, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. During its 'Town Hall' presentation, "A Judge's Perspective on a Fair and Impartial Judiciary," NAWJ President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby (District of Columbia Court of Appeals), Justice Barbara Pariente (Florida Supreme Court), and former Iowa

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MISSION

NAWJ's mission is to promote the judicial role of 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.

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It is such a privilege to report to you as President of the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) on this exciting time of growth and success for the NAWJ. It has been my pleasure to serve with NAWJ's dynamic officers and board members, with the help of the hardworking and committed Executive Director, Marie Komisar, and dedicated staff. Let me begin by updating you on the incredible 2014 Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conference the NAWJ hosted March 13-15, 2014, in our nation's capital. The conference theme echoed the theme I have chosen to focus on during my presidency: "Ensuring Access to Justice for All," in recognition of the critical role that the judiciary, the legislature, federal regulatory agencies, businesses, and advocacy-based organizations play in ensuring access to justice. Highlights from this year's Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conference included:

- Congressional Women's Caucus Luncheon Meeting, discussing the role of civil legal aid in assuring access to justice;
- Federal and state regulatory plenary panel led by women leaders of various agencies focusing on emerging federal and state regulatory issues;
- Keynote address by Attorney General Eric Holder;
- United States Supreme Court event hosted by our very own Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg that began with a theatrical rendition of Janet Langhart-Cohen's, play, "Anne & Emmett," about Anne Frank, a Jewish girl killed during the Holocaust and Emmett Till, an African-American boy killed in the "Jim Crow" South. The play was followed by a panel discussing implicit bias and access to justice issues and closing reception at the Court;
- A panel on labor trafficking, a form of human trafficking.

In addition to our successful Midyear Conference, NAWJ's many committees are active and vibrant, and continue to work to achieve fairness and equality for vulnerable populations. For example, NAWJ's new Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project (IVP), chaired by Justice Joan Irion, has had many exciting developments! The IVP won an Emmy in the Public Service Announcement category for the film "Fair and Free" narrated by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, which showcases the importance of safeguarding a fair and impartial judiciary.



The IVP also forged partnerships with numerous organizations to support IVP's work, including collaboration with the American Bar Association's Judicial Division to celebrate its annual Law Day through this year's theme, "American Democracy and the Rule of Law: Why every Vote Matters." The IVP was featured in a symposium at the National Constitution Center where I, along with Justice Barbara J. Pariente of the Florida Supreme Court and former Chief Justice Marsha Ternus of the Iowa Supreme Court, discussed why ensuring judicial independence and fair and impartial courts is so critical, and how particular state judicial elections can be compromised by partisan politics.

Additionally, the Women in Prison Committee participates on a special Department of Justice Bureau of Prisons' Taskforce on Women Inmates in federal prisons. The Subcommittee on Human

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It is my privilege and honor to continue to serve as the Executive Director of NAWJ. Thank you to our dynamic President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby for her leadership and devotion to NAWJ and for her achievement in presenting an outstanding Midyear Leadership Conference this past March. Together, with an amazing Board of Directors, our indefatigable district directors, dedicated Resource Board members, active committee members, engaged membership, and the hard-working NAWJ staff, NAWJ has seen tremendous growth and national exposure.

NAWJ Programs showcase the extraordinary talent and commitment of our members. Thank you to Judge Joan Irion, Chair and members of her Committee for the successful launch of the Emmy Award winning Informed Voters Project. The tremendous national effort from judges and valued members of the NAWJ Resource Board continues to drive the essential message home to our citizens about the importance of fair and impartial courts.

In 2012 under the leadership of NAWJ past presidents, Judge Brenda Loftin and Judge Amy Nechtem the Strategic Plan was reviewed and updated. The amended changes approved by the Board of Directors in 2013 were incorporated into the original plan as an addendum. This valuable tool continues to guide me at every turn.

NAWJ's staff pride themselves on being responsive to the members' needs and concerns and always strives for excellence. Craig Evans, Lavinia Cousin, and Mary-Kathleen Todd's day-to day commitment to support our projects, committees, and conferences is evident with each outstanding success. Please join me in thanking them for their tireless dedication and hard work. Our conference logistics have been professionally managed with financial accountability and fiscal responsibility.

We are pleased to announce that as of August 1 we will have settled into our newly designed office space at 1001 Connecticut Avenue. In addition to moving into brand new space, we are hoping to unveil an updated fresh faced redesigned website before the end of the year. The website will be easier for members to navigate and will give NAWJ a more professional look that will serve us well and will showcase these extraordinary programs.

Very best wishes.

Marie Komisar

NAWJ Executive Director

☞ Continued from Page 2

Trafficking provides continuous training for judges on how to identify and combat all forms of human trafficking and collaborates with the State Justice Institute on various anti-trafficking initiatives. NAWJ maintains active programming in all fourteen NAWJ districts on these important issues, and in addition, the districts continue programs, including NAWJ's signature "Color of Justice," "Mentor Jet," and "From the Bar to the Bench."

I would like to close by noting the importance of the work NAWJ does on a local, national, and global scale. During this year's 12th Biennial International Association of Women Judges Conference in Arusha, Tanzania, on May 4-8, 2014, I had the honor of leading the United States delegation of 70 women judges and attendees. We joined over 500 women judges from over 100 countries. Tanzania's President, Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, addressed the opening session of the conference and discussed the critical importance of ensuring access to justice for so many developing countries. I could not agree more with the sentiment that ensuring access to justice for all is of vital importance. NAWJ will have the honor of hosting the 2016 Biennial IAWJ Conference in Washington, D.C.

Thank you again for your efforts to promote NAWJ's important mission and work as the leading voice for women jurists. Your work is vital to the success of NAWJ's many programs and projects!

Warmly,

Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby

Continued from Cover



L-R : Mark Robinson, Jr. President, ABOTA; Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente; NAWJ President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, District of Columbia Court of Appeals; Former Iowa Supreme Court Chief Justice Marsha Ternus (Retired); Jeffrey Rosen, President/CEO, National Constitution Center; Retired Judge Sue Pai Yang, NAWJ Projects Committee Chair.

Figure 1.

Informed Voters/Fair Judges State Coordinating Committee Leadership			
STATES	CHAIRS	LEXISNEXIS	TEAM 'O' (ORRICK)
ALASKA	Elaine Andrews, Alaska Bar Association Mara Rabinowitz, Alaska Court System	Eronda Johnson, Esq., LexisNexis	Melinda Blake, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
CALIFORNIA	Hon. Deanell Reece Tacha, Pepperdine University School of Law Karen-Johnson McKewan, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe	Eronda Johnson, Esq., LexisNexis	Michelle van Oppen, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
FLORIDA	Justice Barbara J. Pariente, Florida Supreme Court Linda Leali, Esq., Linda Leali, P.A.	Ann Whiting, Esq., LexisNexis	Melinda Blake, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
IOWA	Guy R. Cook, Esq., Grefe & Sidney PLC Jim Kottmeyer, Groundswell Public Strategies Judge Karen Romano, Iowa District Court	Barbara Collins, Esq., LexisNexis	Lisa Lowry, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
KANSAS	Mary Birch, Esq., Lathrop & Gage	Erin Holleman, Esq., LexisNexis	Raja Horstman, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
MISSOURI	Keith A. Birkes Keith A. Birkes Fund for Justice Education	Erin Holleman, Esq., LexisNexis	Raja Horstman, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
TENNESSEE	Rebecca Blair, Esq., The Blair Firm Suzanne G. Keith, Esq., Tennessee Association for Justice Cynthia Richardson Wyrick, Esq., Ogle, Gass & Richardson, P.C.	Wendy Weist, Esq., LexisNexis	Michelle van Oppen, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
WASHINGTON	Justice Mary Fairhurst, Washington State Supreme Court Judge James Docter, Bremerton Municipal Court	Amy Betz Esq., LexisNexis	Lisa Lowry, Esq., Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe

Supreme Court Chief Justice Marsha Ternus spoke about the role of the courts in American democracy and provided an insider's look at the challenges state court judges face in charged political environments of an election campaign. The panel was moderated by NCC President and CEO Jeffrey Rosen. C-SPAN marked Independence Day with a broadcasting of the Town Hall on television and radio. For those who missed it, NCC maintains the video online at YouTube.

On Saturday June 14, 2014 "Fair and Free" was awarded an Emmy. The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter) awarded NAWJ an Emmy in the category of 'Single Spot' Community and Public Service Announcements. The event took place at The Fillmore in Silver Spring, Maryland. It was the 56th Emmy Awards by the organization. IVP Chair Justice Joan K. Irion was on hand to accept the award on behalf of NAWJ. Also in attendance were NAWJ Past President Hon. Joan Churchill and NAWJ Project Committee Chair Hon. Sue Pai Yang.

IVP state coordinating committees are active and engaged in bringing together like minds and supporting each other within their respective communities. (A chart of state representatives appears in Figure 1.) Committee chairs and members continue to make presentations to Bar Associations and other legal associations. The state coordinating committees are assisted by a team of attorneys from Landmark Sponsors LexisNexis and Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, all of whom provide necessary resources to support and promote IVP's message.



Visit the Informed Voters' website at <http://ivp.nawj.org>. Traffic on the site grows daily. Consistent with IVP's objectives, the website provides educational materials for voters wishing to learn more about how to evaluate judges seeking election and retention. You will also find information about IVP's mission as well as news about recent activities, partners, and means to view 'Fair and Free.' Project supporters and sponsors, contact information for visitors, and links to Project resources are available too. NAWJ and IVP do not advocate for or against any particular candidate and will not comment on any particular election campaign. IVP's website is complemented by popular social networking vehicles Facebook and Twitter. Look for and share your ideas there.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION *of* WOMEN JUDGES
36th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Protecting and Advancing Meaningful Access to Justice

OCTOBER 15-19, 2014 | SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
THE WESTIN GASLAMP QUARTER

KEYNOTE SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS

Justice Sonia Sotomayor	United States Supreme Court
Janet Napolitano	President, University of California
Professor Anita Hill	Brandeis University
Professor Charles Ogletree, Jr.	Harvard Law School



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION *of* WOMEN JUDGES

36th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2014

Las Colinas Women's Detention Facility Women
Optional Tour

International Border Optional Tour

Unaccompanied Immigrant Minors Camp
Optional Tour*

International Judges Reception

New Judge/First-Time Attendee/Mentor
Reception

Welcome Reception

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2014

NAWJ's Historic Efforts, Changes, and Future
Challenges for the Violence Against Women Act

Changing Families, Changing Times

Meaningful Access to Justice in
Indian Country

Unaccompanied Immigrant Children

Access to Justice through Diverse Leadership:
Appointment of Counsel to Boards,
Commissions, and Special Assignments

International Surrogacy Issues

The Forgotten Warrior: Women Veterans,
Health Care, and the Courts

Racial Stereotyping and the American Indian
Mascot Issue

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2014 (CONT.)

Access to Justice for Family Violence Survivors:
'Family Justice Centers' and Other Innovative
Practices

Reception at the Maritime Museum

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2014

Labor Trafficking

Using the Rule of Law to Promote
Women's Rights

Language of Sexual Violence

The Science of Credibility

How Two Men Turned the Horror of Murder
into Community Reconciliation

International Tea and Ethics

Presumed Guilty - The Challenge of Justice in
the Americas

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2014

Implicit Bias

Election, Selection, and Retention of Judges:
Challenges to Judicial Independence

Family Justice Centers Optional Tour

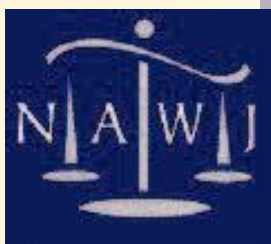
Gala Awards Banquet

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2014

Access to Justice and Implicit Bias

FOR COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, VISIT THE CONFERENCE WEBPAGE:

www.nawj.org/annual_2014.asp



NAWJ MISSION

The National Association of Women Judges' mission is to: promote the judicial role of 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.

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Hon. Randa M. Trapp

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NAWJ PRESENTS MEMORABLE MIDYEAR MEETING AND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The National Association of Women Judges returned to Washington, D.C. for its 2014 Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conference. After a year of planning under the leadership of NAWJ President Hon. Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, who served as Conference Chair, over 330 judges, attorneys, officials, and other legal professionals attended a dynamic two-day conference. The theme of the conference, “Ensuring Access to Justice for All,” was addressed from multiple perspectives by diverse and compelling speakers each of whom provided the participants with invaluable information and insight.

NAWJ Meets on Capitol Hill

The conference began with our annual meeting on Capitol Hill with the Congressional Caucus for Women’s Issues. In their opening remarks, Caucus Co-Chair, Representative Donna F. Edwards (Maryland), and Judge Blackburne-Rigsby set the tone for a lively and informative panel discussion on the importance of providing affordable civil legal aid as a measure to ensure access to justice. Fellow Caucus members Representatives Katherine Clark (Massachusetts), Lois Capps (California), Jan Schakowsky (Illinois), and Suzanne Bonamici (Oregon) also attended the luncheon held in the U.S. Capitol Visitors Center. The panel, consisting of Professor Peter Edelman, Georgetown University Law Center and Chair of the D.C. Access to Justice Commission; Martha Bergmark, Executive Director of the Civil Legal Aid Hub; and Celinda Lake, President, Lake Research Partners addressed the challenges resulting from the huge increase in pro-se litigants. That access to justice is not only for those who can afford legal representation was the primary message delivered by Professor Edelman and Ms. Bergmark, while Ms. Lake explained how to frame the issue so as to encourage support and funding for individuals who face difficulty accessing justice solely because of the cost of legal representation.

Viewing a ‘Record of Rights’

Conference activities continued with a visit to the David M. Rubenstein Gallery of the National Archives, where participants were treated to a private lecture on the new permanent exhibit “Record of Rights” by Patrick Madden, Executive Director of the Foundation of the National Archives. We also heard from William Robinson, Corporate Secretary of GEICO and a Host Committee member of the conference.

Thank You, Washington, D.C.

The day concluded with a wonderful reception at Venable LLP during which Judge Blackburne-Rigsby recognized the hard work of the planning committee: Hon. Krystal Quinn Alves, NAWJ Past President Hon. Joan Churchill, Ms. Eden Forsythe, Hon. Caryn Hines, Hon. Gladys Kessler, Hon. Peg Mangan, and Hon. Heidi Pasichow. The Host Committee Chairs Beverly L. Perry, Esq., Senior Vice President (Retired) Pepco Holdings, Inc., Grace E. Speights, Esq., Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP, and Barbara L. Johnson, Esq., Paul Hastings LLP were also acknowledged for their outstanding leadership. The conference was a tremendous financial success for NAWJ as a result of the unwavering commitment of the Host Committee Chairs and the invaluable contributions of the other members of the Host Committee, including Claude E. Bailey, Esq., Venable LLP, Johnine P. Barnes, Esq., Greenberg Traurig, LLP,

A. Scott Bolden, Esq., Reed Smith, LLP, Kevin Fitzgerald, Esq., Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Pepco Holdings, Inc., Deborah J. Israel, Esq., Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP; William Robinson, Esq., Corporate Secretary, GEICO; Stacey Sublett, Esq., Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.; and Benjamin Wilson, Esq., Beveridge & Diamond, P.C.

The Conference resumed the following day with the presentation of colors by the District of Columbia National Color Guard, and stirring remarks by Judge Blackburne-Rigsby and three Chief Justices: Hon. Eric Washington, District of Columbia Court of Appeals; Hon. Lee F. Satterfield, District of Columbia Superior Court; and Hon. Merrick Garland, U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit. The ceremony and remarks were followed by two outstanding plenary panel discussions.

Federal Regulatory Issues

The first panel focused on emerging federal regulatory issues. Hon. Julie Frantz, NAWJ President-Elect, provided an overview of the topic and introduced the speakers: Mignon Clyburn, Acting Chair, Federal Communications Commission; Patrice Ficklin, Assistant Director of the Office of Fair Lending and Equal Opportunity in the Consumer Finance and Protection Bureau; and Colette Honorable, Chairman of the Arkansas Public Services Commission and President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. The panel was moderated by Attorney Kevin Fitzgerald, Esq., Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Pepco Holdings, Inc. The participants learned how these agencies address current challenges and what measures are employed to ensure access to justice.

Affordable Care Act

The second plenary panel focused on the Affordable Care Act from the perspective of regulators, health care providers and insurance providers. The topic was introduced by Hon. Lisa Walsh, NAWJ Vice President for Districts and was moderated by Natalie O. Ludaway, Esq., Leftwich & Ludaway LLC. The panelists included Kim Horn, President of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc., Dora Hughes, Esq., senior policy advisor at Sidley Austin LLP, and Joe Miller, general counsel for America’s Health Insurance Plans.

Keynote Luncheon

The participants were honored by the presence of U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr. who gave an inspiring Keynote Address. The Attorney General discussed his efforts as the country’s chief law enforcement officer to ensure access to justice, and emphasized the role women and organizations like NAWJ have played in furtherance of that goal. The Attorney General’s remarks were preceded by a magical musical performance given by the Washington Middle School for Girls.

At the Supreme Court

The day continued with a tour and reception at the U.S. Supreme Court hosted by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg at which Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Sonya Sotomayor mingled with the crowd. Among many conference highlights was the performance of Ms. Janet Langhart Cohen’s play “Anne & Emmett” which depicts Anne Frank, a young Jewish girl killed during the Holocaust, and Emmett Till, an African



IAWJ's 12TH INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL CONFERENCE, JUSTICE FOR ALL, IN ARUSHA, TANZANIA

Over 500 participants from 36 countries attended the 12th IAWJ Biennial International Conference, Justice For All, hosted by the Tanzania Women Judges Association (TAWJA) in Arusha, Tanzania from May 5-9, 2014. The event took place at the Arusha International Conference Center, home of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

The Opening Ceremony included welcoming remarks from His Excellency Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, who discussed how access to justice is becoming an ever more critical theme in the work of so many developing countries, and Hon. Mohamed Chande Othman, Chief Justice of Tanzania. The opening reception was hosted by Hon. Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro (MP), Minister for Constitutional Affairs and Justice. Along with wonderful special evening events, members also attended meetings of their regions where they elected their new regional representatives to the IAWJ's Board of Directors.

Over the course of the conference, participants discussed a wide variety of topics ranging from justice for vulnerable witnesses, the global leadership of women, sextortion, results-based case management, judicial communication, justice in inter-state child abductions, to opportunities for judges beyond the bench. Panels included: "Reflections on the Changing Meaning of 'Justice for All,'" "Justice for Vulnerable Witnesses," "The Global Leadership of Women: Translating Lessons Learned at the International Tribunals to Low-Resource Courts," and "Being the Change You Want to See in the World: National Women Judges Associations and 'Justice for All,'" which was moderated by NAWJ Past President, Judge Vanessa Ruiz of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

With an overwhelming majority, conference delegates passed a resolution condemning the kidnapping of Nigerian Girls. The resolution was proposed by the North American region (US and Canada). Joining NAWJ President Hon. Anna Blackburne-Rigbsy in leadership were NAWJ International Director Hon. Ann Walsh Bradley, and Canadian representative Hon. Lucy LaVigne (Court of Queen's Bench of New Brunswick) in consultation with the Nigerian delegation. The final statement in the resolution read:

RESOLUTION

Whereas

The IAWJ is a non-profit, non-governmental organization whose members represent all levels of the judiciary worldwide and share a commitment to equal justice and the Rule of Law; and

Whereas

IAWJ has over 4,000 members from over 100 countries in regions around the world; and

Whereas

IAWJ pioneers judicial education programs that advance human rights, uproot gender bias from judicial systems, and promote women's access to the courts; and

Whereas

IAWJ has worked to educate judges, courts and communities around the world to eliminate gender based violence against women and girls and to eliminate and address all forms of human trafficking; and

Whereas

IAWJ collaborates with other organizations to raise awareness of issues of equal access to justice;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

The IAWJ is outraged and deeply concerned by the kidnapping of the over 200 Nigerian school girls. This abominable and cowardly act is an affront to Justice and the Rule of Law and inconsistent with human rights.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

IAWJ will continue to work tirelessly to eliminate gender based violence and to ensure that girls and women have equal access to justice and the right to pursue educational opportunities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

IAWJ will continue its work to demand justice so that the kidnappers of these Nigerian girls will be held accountable under the Rule of Law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That focusing the attention of the world wide judiciary on this blatant violation of human rights and the Rule of Law is at the core of IAWJ's mission to work to ensure justice for all and to work to end gender based violence against women and girls.

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

We, the delegates in attendance at the 12th Biennial Conference of the IAWJ in Tanzania are unshakable in our resolve to end gender based violence and to educate and raise awareness of the rights to justice for all and the non-negotiable mandate that the Rule of Law prevail.

Additionally, the IAWJ held a moot court session on sextortion, a creative initiative that shed light on this phenomenon, a combination of corruption and sexual exploitation so named by the IAWJ. The moot court was a new format for various international judges and it inspired many. The final day brought a Closing Keynote Speech by His Excellence Dr. Seif Ali Iddi, Second Vice President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar. The Gala Dinner was attended by nearly 600 people and was held at the Mount Meru Hotel, where Hon. Sanji Monageng, IAWJ member from Botswana and currently First Vice President of the International Criminal Court, was awarded the IAWJ Human Rights Award - an inspiring end to the IAWJ's 12th Biennial Conference!

Enthusiastic thanks go to TAWJA, its Organizing Committee under the leadership of Justice Eusebia Munuo, President of the IAWJ 2012-2014, and Justice Engera Kileo, TAWJA Chair, and the IAWJ staff who worked hard to plan and implement the conference for our members! Their efforts, dedication, time and creativity were certainly appreciated by all!

Many thanks to all of you who were able to join us in Arusha! It was wonderful to see so many, and to have the opportunities to network and share with each other good times and important ideas and information.



DISTRICT DIRECTORS

District One (MA, ME, RI, NH, PR)

Hon. MaryLou Muirhead
Boston Housing Court
Massachusetts

District Two (NY, CT, VT)

Hon. Betty J. Williams
New York State Supreme Court,
Kings County

District Three (NJ, PA, DE)

Hon. Sheila Woods-Skipper
Court of Common Pleas, 1st Judicial
District, Philadelphia, PA

District Four (MD, DC, VA)

Hon. Toni E. Clarke
Circuit Court for Prince George's
County, Maryland

District Five (FL, GA, NC, SC)

Hon. Diana S. Eagon, Retired
Hennepin County District Court
Nokomis, Florida

District Six (AL, LA, MS, TN)

Hon. Joy Cossich Lobrano
Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal
New Orleans, Louisiana

District Seven (MI, OH, WV)

Hon. Margaret A. Clark
Brown County Probate/Juvenile Court
Georgetown, Ohio

District Eight (IN, IL, KY)

Hon. Ann Breen-Greco
Illinois State Board of Education
Chicago, Illinois

District Nine (MO, IA, WI)

Hon. Karen A. Romano
Iowa District Court
Des Moines

District Ten (KS, MN, NE, ND, SD)

Hon. Debbie Kleven
Northeast Central Judicial District
Grand Forks, North Dakota

District Eleven (TX, AR, OK)

Hon. Orlanda Naranjo
419th District Court
Austin, Texas

District Twelve (AZ, CO, NM, UT, WY)

Hon. Terry Fox
Colorado Court of Appeals
Denver

District Thirteen (WA, OR, AK, HI, ID, MT)

Hon. Catherine Easter
Anchorage Superior Court
Alaska

District Fourteen (CA, NV)

Hon. Tamila E. Ipema
San Diego County Superior Court
Carlsbad, California

SPECIAL DIRECTORS

International Director

Hon. Ann Walsh Bradley
Wisconsin Supreme Court

ABA Delegate

Hon. Norma Shapiro
U.S. District Court
Eastern District of Pennsylvania

DISTRICT NEWS

DISTRICT ONE (MA,ME,NH,PR,RI)

Hon. Carol Ball of the Massachusetts Superior Court was a **member of the faculty at the 14th Annual Criminal Law Conference** in October 2013, a Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education Program.

Hon. Haiganush Bedrosian, **Chief Judge of the Rhode Island Family Court**, addressed the American Association of Public Welfare Attorneys as part of the opening ceremony for the 2013 conference held in Newport, Rhode Island in November, 2013.

On January 20, 2014, Appeals Court **Justice Geraldine Hines** participated in "A Day of Service and Celebration in Honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." at Faneuil Hall, organized by Boston Mayor Martin Walsh and the Museum of African American History. Justice Hines joined other distinguished community leaders in reading from some of Dr. King's most memorable writings and speeches. Later in July, Justice Hines was confirmed to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, as the first black woman to serve on the state's highest court.

The Massachusetts Association of Women Lawyers honored Judge Amy Lyn Blake of the Essex County Probate and Family Court with its Distinguished Jurist Award for her outstanding service on the bench.

Massachusetts Judges Conference

Judge Terry Craven, who serves as Vice President of the Massachusetts Judges Conference in 2013, will be joined by Judges Patricia Flynn, Amy Nechtem and Mary-Lou Rup who sit on the Board of Directors.

Rhode Island Women in Action

On December 1, 2013, Rhode Island Supreme Court Justice Maureen McKenna Goldberg addressed an audience of high school and college students as key note speaker at the first Rhode Island Women in Action event held at St. Andrew's School in Barrington, RI. The purpose of the program was to inspire an up-and-coming generation of women leaders.

NAWJ at U.S. District Court for Rhode Island District Conference

On October 10, 2013, two members who sit on the federal bench, Hon. Patti B. Saris, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts and Hon. O. Rogerie Thompson, U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, participated in the 2013 District Conference - "Creativity and the Courts" Program for the U.S. District Court of Rhode Island. The program was open to the members of the Rhode Island Bar and the featured speaker was United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Judge Muirhead Swears-in First Woman Mayor of Lynn, Massachusetts

District Director Judge MaryLou Muirhead officiated at the Inaugural Exercises for the City of Lynn on January 6, 2014. In addition to administering the Oath of Office to the City Council and School Committee, Judge Muirhead swore in Mayor Judith Flanagan Kennedy for a second four-year term. Judith Kennedy is the first woman to serve as Mayor of Lynn, having been first elected in 2009 after mounting a write-in campaign which unseated the incumbent by 27 votes. Last November she was resoundingly re-elected and her administration has been credited with making positive strides to improve conditions in the city.

High Tea at New England Law



(L.R) Judge Patti Saris, Attorney Karen Green, Judges Leila Kern, MaryLou Muirhead, Mary Dacey White, Nan Duffy, Martine Carroll and Amy Nechtem.

The Women's Law Caucus at New England Law in Boston hosted District members for high tea on Saturday February 22, 2014. New England Law was founded in 1908 as Portia Law School which, at the time, was the only law school in the United States created exclusively for women. Chief Justice of the U.S. District Court, Patti Saris, Justice Fernande Duffly from the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, and Trial Court Judges Martine Carroll, Mary Dacey White, Leila Kern (Retired), Bonnie MacLeod Mancuso, MaryLou Muirhead, Amy Nechtem, as well as Attorney Karen Green from the Boston Office of Wilmer Hale, enjoyed a traditional high tea service while talking with and getting to know several women from the law school.



Judge Martine Carroll of the Lawrence District Court (r.) and another group of law students exchanging ideas.)

Human Trafficking

The District's Committee on Human Trafficking in conjunction with the Judicial Institute presented a full day educational program on the exploitation of women and children for the justices of the Massachusetts Trial Courts, Appeals Court and Supreme Judicial Court on Thursday, March 27, 2014. The planning committee included Judges Angela Ordoñez, Mary Sullivan, Ariane Vuono, Amy Nechtem, Leila Kern, Rebekah Crampton-Kamukala, Margaret Guzman, Mary-Lou Rup and Angel Kelley-Brown.

NAWJ Past President Judge Amy Nechtem Appointed Chief Justice of The Massachusetts Juvenile Court



Judge Amy L. Nechtem, who serves on the Essex County Juvenile Court in Lynn, was appointed to a five-year term as Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Juvenile Court. Fellow NAWJ member Trial Court Chief Justice Paula M. Carey announced the appointment stating: "I am pleased to announce the appointment of Judge Amy Nechtem to lead the Juvenile Court in promoting positive outcomes for children and families. Her judicial and leadership experience will

advance juvenile justice and child welfare using the latest research, data analysis and evidence-based practices over the next five years."

In her new post, Judge Nechtem will be responsible for the administration and management of the Juvenile Court Department that is comprised of 11 Divisions with 41 authorized judicial positions across the Commonwealth. Judge Nechtem will also be responsible for the education of new judges and the ongoing education of current judges.

"I am honored to have been chosen to serve the court I love," said Nechtem. "I'm privileged to have the opportunity to serve as the Chief Justice of the Juvenile Court and to work with our extraordinarily talented judges and staff who are devoted to promoting the best interests of our children and families involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. "I am fortunate to

be guided by a tradition of excellence as exhibited in the leadership of Chief Justice Michael F. Edgerton and Chief Justice Martha P. Grace. I truly appreciate Chief Justice Paula Carey's confidence in me and thank her for her outstanding leadership of our Trial Court."

Former U.S. District Judge Nancy Gertner to Receive ABA's Margaret Brent Award



Harvard Law School Professor and former U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Nancy Gertner will be recognized by the ABA Commission on Women with its Margaret Brent Award. The Award Luncheon will take place Sunday, August 10, 2014 from noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts

District Joins the Flaschner Judicial Institute for Conference on Human Trafficking



Photo left: (L-R) Katie Dulit of the Flaschner Institute, NAWJ Past President Judge Amy Nechtem and Det. Sgt. Donna Gavin.

Two weeks after NAWJ's Midyear Conference, the District and the Flaschner Judicial Institute presented a day long education program on human trafficking at the Henderson House in Weston for the justices of the Massachusetts Trial Courts, Appeals Court and Supreme Judicial Court on Thursday, March 27, 2014.



Photo Left: Judges Michael Edgerton, Paula Carey, Angela Ordoñez and Amy Nechtem. Photo Right: Judges Antoinette Leoney and Angel Kelley Brown.)

The planning committee included Judges Angela Ordoñez, Mary Sullivan, Ariane Vuono, Amy Nechtem, Leila Kern, Rebekah Crampton-Kamukala, Margaret Guzman, Mary-Lou Rup and Angel Kelley-Brown. The judges who attended were welcomed by **Chief Justice Paula Carey** and presented an overview of the issues by **Detective Sgt. Donna Gavin**, Commander of the Human Trafficking Unit of the Boston Police Department. The broader legal issues were discussed by a panel of attorneys who work in the trenches, including **Deborah Bercovitch**, Human Trafficking Prosecutor at the Office of the Attorney General, **Julie Dahlstrom**, Managing Attorney at the Immigration Legal Assistance Program, Lutheran Social Services, **Elizabeth Hugetz**, Staff Attorney of the Committee for Public Counsel Services, and **S. Theodore Merritt**, Assistant US Attorney Office of the U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts. **Judge Mary Sullivan** moderated the panel.



A presentation on services available to victims of trafficking followed and included speakers **Katie Carlson**, GIFT Program Director at *Roxbury Youthworks*, **Cherie Jimenez**, Director, *Josephine Butler EVA Center*, **Audrey Morrissey**, Assistant Director, *My Life, My Choice*, and Pamela Pierce, Probation Officer at the Dorchester Division of the Boston Municipal Court. After lunch,

Judge Barry Kamins (photo left), Chief of Policy and Planning for the New York State Courts and Administrator of the Criminal Court of the City of New York, discussed New York's Human Trafficking Intervention Initiative, which created a system of courts designed to intervene in the lives of trafficking victims and to help break the cycle of exploitation and arrest. To end the day there was a panel discussion of "The Role of Forensic Evaluation in Human Trafficking Cases." Participants included **Dr. Jose Hidalgo**, Forensic Psychiatry Fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital, **Abigail Judge, Ph.D.**, Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School, and **Jennifer A. Murphy, Ph.D.**, psychologist at the Massachusetts General Hospital's Juvenile Court Clinic.

Chief Justice Grace Honored



Pictured in photo (L-R) portrait artist Jo Ellen Reinhardt, Judge Grace.

Retired **Chief Justice Martha Grace** was honored with the unveiling of her portrait at the Worcester Courthouse in March. More than 200 people attended the ceremonies, including **Judge Paula Carey**, Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Trial Court, and **Judge Michael Edgerton**, who succeeded Judge Grace as Chief Justice of the Juvenile Court after her retirement in 2009. In her comments, Judge Grace told the

assembled group of colleagues, friends and family that among the things that she missed most since retiring were the "extraordinary" people she had the opportunity to work with including her fellow judges, the probation officers, the clerks and court officers and the custodians. "But most of all, I miss the incredible opportunity that each of us in the Juvenile Court had every day to make a difference in the lives of the children and families that appeared in court. As difficult as the job may have been at times, it was all worthwhile when a young person returned to show me a high school diploma and say thank you for convincing me to stay in school, or a mother who was able to successfully undergo rehabilitation and return to court to regain custody of her children."

DISTRICT TWO (CT,NY,VT)

Congratulations to the District's State Chairs

Connecticut Superior Court Judge Patty Jenkins Pittman was appointed NAWJ State Chair for Connecticut.

Hon. Colleen A. Brown, Bankruptcy Judge for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Vermont, was appointed **NAWJ State Chair for Vermont**. She said:

"As co-chair of the Federal Judges Committee of NAWJ, Mary Schroeder and I have been actively working to increase membership among federal judges. We recruited other bankruptcy judge members of NAWJ to help organize an informational breakfast for all the women bankruptcy judges in attendance at the 2013 Annual Conference of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ). We had about 20 judges attend this breakfast. We who are NAWJ members described all the great work of NAWJ and the benefits of NAWJ membership, and those in attendance participated in a lively discussion. Although it appears none of those judges have yet joined NAWJ, we are going to follow up with them. We had such a good time, we plan to make that an annual event! Also, I am very happy to report that as a result of the large number of attendees at the breakfast gathering, and enthusiasm that flowed from it, the NCBJ Board of Governors recently voted to create an NCBJ-NAWJ Liaison Committee, and appointed me to chair it. This is terrific because it puts NAWJ on the radar screen of all NCBJ members, it means

that NCBJ will pay for me (or my delegate) to attend the NAWJ annual conference, and it means I will be filing a report every 6 months to describe the activities of NAWJ which will be disseminated to all NCBJ members"

Thank you both for your public service, and your dedication to NAWJ.

Judge E. Jeanette Ogden, volunteered to serve as the **interim state chair for New York**.

Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act (DVSJA) Update

In April 2013, District Two Director Judge Betty J. Williams, Tamar Kraft-Stolar, Correctional Association of New York's Women in Prison Project Director, and Associate Director Jaya Vasandani traveled to Albany to meet with representatives from New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo's Counsel's Office to discuss the Domestic Violence Survivors Justice bill and request the Governor's support. This meeting was followed by another meeting in November 2013, with Mylan Denerstein, counsel to the Governor. Also in attendance was Judge Marcy Kahn, Kraft-Stolar and Ms. Vasandani.

The DVSJA would change the way the criminal justice system punishes survivors who act to protect themselves from an abuser's violence. It gives judges discretion when sentencing domestic violence survivor-defendants in cases where domestic violence played a significant contributing factor in the commission of the crime. During 2013, the campaign secured support for the bill, including from a majority of the New York State Senate, leadership in the Assembly, and additional affiliate organizations. As of February 2014, 124 domestic violence organizations, women's groups, crime victims groups and criminal justice organizations and thousands of individuals from across the state are united in support of this legislation. The Coalition for Women Prisoners held an Advocacy Day in Albany, bringing over 100 formerly incarcerated women and advocates to meet with 85 legislators and their staffs. On the same day, the Coalition held a press conference covered by the Albany Times Union, North Country Public Radio, and the Legislative Gazette.

Recent campaign events includes a presentation at the Monroe County Domestic Violence Consortium's annual Legislative Breakfast in Rochester on March 7, the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence Albany Lobby Day on April 29, a DVSJA Legislative Breakfast sponsored by Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson, Assemblyman Jeffrion Aubry and the Legislative Women's Caucus on April 30, and the Reentry Roundtable Advocacy Day on May 20.

NAWJ's New York Chapter has supported this bill since 2006.

Brooklyn Presents Color of Justice Program



The Brooklyn program on March 29, 2014 was a smashing success. **Justice Ruth Shillingford** did an amazing job in planning and executing the program. Eighteen high school girls from the

Brooklyn Institute for Liberal Arts, accompanied by their principal and another faculty member, participated in the program. The members of each panel were phenomenal and engaging. At the end of each panel, each panelist was presented with an NAWJ pin. The program began with an introductory session and a breakfast of bagels, donuts, juice. Two traditional Color of Justice panels with five panelists on each panel followed. During the lunch hour, students broke into small groups, and were mentored by lawyers and judges from the New York community. The program concluded by calling each student, and presenting them with a certificate and a goodie bag donated by OCA's Access to Justice. New York Law School created a handout entitled "Beginning to Think About Law School" and "Law Career Options." Thank you both, Judge Ruth Shillingford and **Judge Joanne D. Quinones**.

Queens Presents Color of Justice Program

The Queens County Women's Bar Association partnered with NAWJ for the May 1, 2014 Color of Justice program. Queens County Criminal Court Judge Michelle A. Armstrong gathered 25 high school students from Academy of Finance and Enterprise to participate and learn from the four panels: 1) Who am I...I am You, 2) The Road to the Bench, 3) Here Come the Judges, and 4) luncheon discussion Each One...Teach One. Participants included: Ed Woods, Esq., Reputable Entertainment; Madga Jimenez Train, Esq., Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP; Johnette Traill, Esq., Deputy Bureau Chief, Queens County District Attorney's Office; Ruth Appadoo-Johnson, Esq., Senior Attorney, Queens County Legal Aid Society; Danielle Hartman, Esq., Law Secretary to the Hon. Joseph Zayas, Court of Claims; Paul Gamble, Esq., Law Secretary to the Hon. Michelle A. Armstrong, Criminal Court; Roslyn Midgett, Esq., Associate Director of Admissions, Brooklyn Law School; Tahir Boykins, Law Student, Brooklyn Law School; Supervising Judge Deborah Modica, Queens County Criminal Court; Administrative Judge Joseph Zayas, Queens County Supreme Court (Criminal Term); Judge Marguerite Grays, Queens County Supreme Court (Civil Term); Judge Carmen Velasquez, Queens County.

HAPPENINGS AND HIGHLIGHTS

On December 16, 2013, the New York Chapter held its Annual NAWJ Holiday Party for judges at New York Law School.



New York State Supreme Court **Justice Patricia DiMango** retired after 16 years as a Supreme Court Judge. At the end of February 2014 she began her new career in the private sector. (Pictured in photo.)

Judge Ellen Gesmer is **co-teaching "Anatomy of a New York Divorce"** with Judge Laura Drager at New York Law School.

Judge Darcel D. Clark is currently teaching "Careers In Criminal Justice Seminar" at Monroe College in the School of Criminal Justice. Judge Clarke is a member of the Boston College Board of Trustees.

Judge Juanita Bing Newton taught a course entitled "Criminal Procedure and Practice" at Monroe College, Bronx New York.

NAWJ Past President Justice LaTia Martin is entering her sixth year teaching at Pace Law School. **Her classes include Criminal Procedure and Commercial Law.**



Pictured in photo Judge LaTia Martin and Dr. Gary Ford, filmmaker

On March 13, 2014, Bronx Supreme Court Justice LaTia Martin coordinated "**Justice is a Black Woman: The Life and Work of Constance Baker Motley**," a film Screening and discussion co-sponsored by the Metropolitan Black Bar Association at New York Law School.

Judge Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix, Dr. Joe Radix and their three daughters developed, with parent support, a four hour free tutoring program that also provides homework assistance and lunch for youth in their community. The program is staffed by the Radix family.

Retired Judge Sarah Krauss, in consultation with the New York Chapter of NAWJ President Darcel D. Clark, **submitted a seminar proposal to the IAWJ 2014 planning committee for the conference in Tanzania.** The program called "It's Not about the Truth but about what gets in the Record" proposed to focus on how various rules of evidence in different countries affect the judges' decision-making process.

Judge Ruth Shillingford was elected to the Board of Trustees of the East Harlem School, a private middle school for disadvantaged students in East Harlem, New York City. She was also President of the Lincoln University Club of the Greater New York Metropolitan Area in January 2013 and January 2014, respectively.

Justice Yvonne Lewis, Co-Chair of the **Kings County Courts Black History Month Programs** Committee, coordinated a series of programs that were held at Family, Criminal and Civil Courts in Brooklyn. The opening program was held in Kings County Supreme, Civil Term on February 3, 2014 and the closing ceremony was held on February 28, 2014.

On December 7, 2013, Judge Gloria Dabiri moderated a panel of judges at a **Women's Day Scholarship educational forum at Wayside Baptist Church** in Brooklyn, New York. Panelists included Judges Juanita Bing-Newton, Cheryl Gonzales, Margarita Lopez-Torres, Robin Sheares, Ruth Shillingford, Lillian Wan and Betty J. William.

Judge Robin S. Garson was appointed in February, 2013, to the New York State Bar Association Special Committee on Prisoner Re-Entry and the Job Training and Employment Subcommittee by past New York State Bar Association President Seymour James.

A ceremony honoring Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was held at the Erie County Hall on Friday January 17, 2014. The program was **presented by the Coalition of Blacks in the Courts. Several NAWJ members participated** including Administrative Judge Paula L. Feroletto, Supreme Court Judges Donna Siwek, Penny Wolfgang, Shirley Troutman, Diane Devlin, Sharon Townsend, Tracey Bannister, Family Court Judges Lisa Block Rodwin, Sharon LoVallo and Buffalo City Court Judges E. Jeanette Ogden, Diane Wray, Susan Eagen, Betty Calvo-Torres and Amy Martoche.

Judge Sheila Abdus-Salaam organized and coordinated the 2014 Black History Month program for the New York State Court of Appeals. She was the Keynote Speaker and presenter at New York County Lawyer's Association, Civil Court Practice Section Dinner and Queens County Bar Association Program.

NAWJ Reads for 17th Annual Read Across America Program



L-R back row: John Coffey, Esq.; Judge Nancy M. Bannon, Cheri D. Gatling; Joy Thompson, Esq.
L-R bottom row: Judge Joanne Quinones; Maritza Olliviera, PS 274 Principal

On Monday March 3, 2014, NAWJ members Judges Joanne D. Quinones and Nancy M. Bannon participated in the 17th Annual Read Across America Program. The judges read Dr. Seuss books to approximately 40 first graders at P.S. 274 in Brooklyn. Judge Quinones is a proud graduate of P.S. 274 and said "I was excited to do it because I love Dr. Seuss and I knew

that it would give me a chance to go back and visit the elementary school that I graduated from.” *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, Tuesday March 4, 2014, pg. 12

Judge Betty J. Williams spoke to students at the Borough of Manhattan Community College on April 7, 2014, the John Jay College of Criminal Justice on April 24, 2014, and Queens Community College on May 7, 2014.

In May 2014, **Judge Cheryl Gonzales coordinated a Human and Sex Trafficking Symposium - Individuals Under 21**. The planning committee included Judges Juanita Bing Newton, Edwina Richardson-Mendelsohn and Betty J. Williams.

Fall Chamber Chat on Human Trafficking Court



Buffalo City Court Judge Amy C. Martoche hosted a Fall Chamber Chat on November, 2013. The judges shared stories about her path to the bench, provided tips for practice in her courtroom, and led a discussion about the Human Trafficking Court she recently implemented. She explained how this new problem-solving court addresses the root cause of crimes affecting women and men who are subjected to forced labor and the sex trade. Judge Martoche involved members in an informal discussion about the promotion and advancement of women in our local and legal communities.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Governor Cuomo Recognizes Trailblazers in Justice



On February 16, 2014, at the Executive Mansion in Albany, New York, Governor Andrew Cuomo honored the following with the Trailblazers in Justice Award: Associate Justice Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix, New York State Supreme Court Appellate

Division, Second Department; Associate Justice Darcel D. Clark, New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, First Department; Hon. Sheila Abdus-Salaam, New York State Associate Judge of The Court of Appeals; and Hon. Jenny River, New York State Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals.



L-R: Lyndon Williams, Judge LaTia Martin

On February 27, 2014, Judge LaTia Martin, NAWJ Past President, received the 2014 Betty Shabazz Award for Social Justice from the Westchester County African American Advisory Board in their Black History Month Trailblazers Award ceremony. Judge Martin also

On January 31, 2014, former New York State Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye received the inaugural Distinguished Jurist Award from the Judicial Section of the New York State Bar Association at the New York State Bar Association Annual Conference.

On January 31, 2014, Judge Michelle Weston received the 2013 Justice of Year Award from the Association of Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of New York at the Annual breakfast at the Warwick Hotel.

On November 21, 2013, the Foundation for Judicial Friends, Inc., 32nd Annual Rivers, Toney and Watson Awards Dinner honored new Court of Appeals Judges Sheila Abdus-Salaam and Jenny Rivera at the Brooklyn Marriot Hotel.

On November 18, 2013, Judge Laura Ward, Vice President of the Association of the Judges of the Criminal Court of the City of New York, presented awards to Judges Miriam Best, Miriam Cyrulnick and Ruth Shillingford in recognition of “their outstanding contribution to the cause of justice on behalf of the People of the City and State of New York.” The awards were presented at the Association’s Annual Dinner.

On February 27, 2014, Judge Sheila Abdus-Salaam was honored at the 24th Annual Black History Month Celebration Program by the Judicial Friends Association in partnership with the New York State Unified Court System Committee to Celebrate Black History Month and The Tribune Society, Inc. of the Courts of the New York (State) in the Rotunda of the Supreme Court, Civil Branch of New York County.

Judge Abdus-Salaam also received honors from the following organizations: Erie, Monroe and Onondaga County Bar Associations, New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers, Justices of the 4th Department Appellate Division; National Lawyers Guild - New York Chapter; New York Women Bar Association; National Lawyers Guild; Guardians Association of the New York State Courts; Amistad Black Bar Association of Long Island; the Lawrence A. Wein Prize for Social Responsibility; and the Queens County Women’s Bar Association.

Judge Jenny Rivera received honors from the following organizations: New York Assembly Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force; Partnership to Advance Women Leaders; Association of Law Secretaries to the Justices of the Supreme Court; El Diario; Westchester Black Bar Association; New York State Trial Lawyers Association; New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers; Columbia Law School; Princeton Alumni Association of Northern New York; Bronx Chamber of Commerce; Latino Lawyers Association of Queens; Queens County Women’s Bar Association; and the New York Women’s Bar Association.

APPOINTED, RE-APPOINTMENTS, ELECTIONS, RE-ELECTIONS

NAWJ President, New York Chapter, Judge Darcel D. Clark presented Certificates of Recognition to 49 of the recently elected, re-elected, appointed and re-appointed judges at the NAWJ New York Chapter Annual Meeting on January 31, 2014:

Hon. Tracey Bing, Civil Court Judge, Bronx County

Hon. Diana Boyar, Civil Court Judge, New York County

Hon. Elizabeth Burns, City Court Judge, Courtland County

Hon. Julie Campbell, County Court Judge, Courtland County

Hon. Mary Carney, Family Court Judge, Erie County

Hon. Theresa Ciccotto, Civil Court Judge, Richmond County

Hon. Ellen Coin, Criminal Court Judge, New York County

Hon. Anna Culley, Civil Court Judge, Queens County

Hon. Kathie Davidson, Family Court Judge, Westchester Erie County

Hon. Bruna DiBiase, Criminal Court Judge, New York County

Hon. Mary Anne Doherty, City Court Judge, Onondaga County

Hon. Denise Dominguez, Civil Court Judge, New York County

Hon. Laura Douglas, Supreme Court Justice, Bronx County
 Hon. Caroline Edwards-Morrison, City Court Judge, Monroe County
 Hon. Kathryn Freed, Civil Court Judge, New York County
 Hon. Marcy Friedman, Civil Court Judge, New York County
 Hon. Debra Givens, City Court Judge, Erie County
 Hon. Patricia Harrington, County Court Judge, Nassau County
 Hon. Barbara Howe, Surrogate's Court Judge, Erie County
 Hon. Debra James, Supreme Court Justice, New York County
 Hon. Dawn Jimenez Salta, Supreme Court Justice, Kings County
 Hon. Laura Johnson, Civil Court Judge, Kings County
 Hon. Chris Kelley, District Judge, Suffolk County
 Hon. Kathy King, Civil Court Judge, Kings County
 Hon. Susan Kushner, Family Court Judge, Albany County
 Hon. Marianne Mitzel, Family Court Judge, Ulster County
 Hon. Ann O'Shea, Civil Court Judge, Kings County
 Hon. Judith O'Shea, Supreme Court Justice, Chemung County
 Hon. Laurie Peterson, Civil Court Judge, New York County
 Hon. Deborah Poulos, Family Court Judge, Suffolk County
 Hon. Erica Prager, District Judge, Nassau County
 Hon. Dakota Ramseur, Civil Court Judge, Bronx County
 Hon. Kathleen Robichaud, City Court Judge, Rensselaer County
 Hon. Julia Rodriguez, Supreme Court Justice, Bronx County
 Hon. Mary Rosado, Civil Court Judge, Bronx County
 Hon. Dandrea Ruhlmann, Family Court Judge, Monroe County
 Hon. Norma Ruiz, Supreme Court Justice, Bronx County
 Hon. Carol Sharpe, Civil Court Judge, Bronx County
 Hon. Denise Sher, Court of Claims Judge, Nassau County
 Hon. Shawndya Simpson, Civil Court Judge, Kings County
 Hon. Deanne Tripi, Civil Court Judge, Kings County
 Hon. Sally Unger, Civil Court Judge, Queens County
 Hon. Maria Vazquez-Doles, Supreme Court Justice, Orange County
 Hon. Laura Ward, Criminal Court Judge, New York County
 Hon. Joy Watson, District Judge, Nassau County
 Hon. Betty Williams, Supreme Court Justice, Kings County
 Hon. Kim Wilson, Supreme Court Justice, Orange County
 Hon. Karen Wilutus, County Court Judge, Suffolk County
 Hon. Hope Zimmerman, Supreme Court Justice, Nassau County

Judge Barbara R. Kapnick was appointed to New York State Appellate Division, First Department, and Judge Coleen Duffy was appointed to the Appellate Division Second Department, both on February 3, 2014.

NAWJ Finance Chair, **Judge Tanya R. Kennedy was appointed Supervising Judge of Civil Court, New York County** on December 23, 2013. Judge Kennedy assumed her new position on January 27, 2014.



L-R top row: Judge Debra L. Givens, Judge Barbara Howe; L-R bottom row: Judge Mary Carney, Judge Deana Trippi

On January 15, 2014, a ceremony was held at Erie County Courthouse, welcoming NAWJ members who were recently elected: Family Court Judges Mary Carney and Deana Trippi; re-elected Buffalo City Court Judge Debra L. Givens and Surrogate Court Judge Barbara Howe, former New York Chapter President.

DISTRICT THREE (DE,NJ,PA,VI)

NAWJ Past President Hon. Carolyn Temin Recognized by the University of Pennsylvania Law School with a Portrait Unveiling

The University of Pennsylvania Law School and the Kilgore Society honored one of its alumnae, the Hon. Carolyn E. Temin FA'55 L'58, at a wine and cheese reception and ceremony acknowledging her contributions to the justice system and to the profession. Judge Temin's portrait was formally unveiled at this event.

Judge Temin served as a Judge for the Court of Common Pleas for the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania for nearly 30 years, and continues to serve as an International Judicial Consultant. She's been a trailblazing leader among women lawyers and judges throughout her career, and she's been involved with the Kilgore Society and related activities since its founding, most recently speaking on our inaugural Kilgore CLE panel during Penn Law's Reunion Weekend in 2013.

Judge Temin was NAWJ's President for the 2003-2004 year. She is Co-Chair of the Planning Committee for the IAWJ-NAWJ 2016 Biennial Conference to be held in Washington, D.C. from May 26-29, 2016.

NAWJ Joins the National Bar Association "NBA" Midwinter Conference Meeting in Morocco



From January 18-26, 2014, Philadelphia Common Pleas Judges, Sheila Woods-Skipper (President Judge), John L. Braxton, Genece E. Brinkley, Carolyn H. Nichols, Lillian Harris Ransom, Lisette Shirdan-Harris and Karen Shreeves-Johns, joined the NBA Delegation of African American judges and lawyers from across the USA and traveled to the Kingdom of Morocco at the invitation of Moroccan court officials. The group participated in the annual NBA Midwinter Conference. Founded

in 1925, the NBA is America's oldest and largest association of African American lawyers and judges.

The Midwinter conference theme, "The Big Story: Morocco and Black America Working Together on Judicial Reform in 2014," promoted the exchange of legal concepts and ideas while examining judicial reform as recently implemented in Morocco, which included the creation of a Charter of Judiciary System Reform. American and Moroccan judges shared their views and analyzed issues involving Moroccan and U.S. laws. More specifically, the issues discussed included the implementation of accountability, transparency, ethics, and the independence of the judiciary. These areas protect the fundamental rights of citizens consistent with the universal values of Human Rights and the Rule of Law intrinsic in Moroccan, American and International law.

The conference was highlighted by a moving and highly in-depth presentation, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Junior. The presentation, which traced the history of Black America

back dropped against the civil rights movement, was held at the Supreme Court of Morocco (Court of Cassation) and was hosted by the Hon. Chief Justice Mostafa Faress, with a number of Moroccan dignitaries in attendance. The event culminated in the presentation of a portrait of Dr. King to the NBA and was graciously received by Judge Denise Langford Morris, in her capacity as organizer of the delegation and Chair of the National Bar Association Judicial Council.

Luzerne County Family Court Partners with Day Reporting Center to Develop Clothes Closet, Seeks New Home



Inspired by her first meeting of the Pennsylvania chapter of the NAWJ in 2012, member Judge Jennifer Rogers, Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas, reached out to Senior Judge Chester Muroski, the directors of the Luzerne County Day Reporting Center and the Luzerne County Young Lawyers Division to develop a clothes closet to benefit Luzerne County litigants. The objective of the Clothes Closet was to provide a new suit and/or career clothing for a man or woman to wear to a new job or job interview. Those eligible were those receiving job training at the Day Reporting Center (DRC). DRC participants are enrolled in the center as a result of a probationary sentence or sentence resulting from failure to pay child support. In 2013, collection bins were situated within the three courthouses in the county for a two-week period. An overwhelming donation drive resulted. The clothes closet was stocked to full capacity at the DRC and many DRC participants found great happiness and a sense of pride in locating new clothing for their new chapter in life. Unfortunately, as of late 2013, the Clothes Closet is in search of a new home as the space at the DRC was needed for office space. However, the spirit of the new initiative lives on and the opportunity for further progress will blossom once a new location is found.

Judicial Exchange – Judges From Taiwan Visit Courts in New Jersey



Last fall, nine judges from Taiwan visited the federal and state courts of New Jersey. Hosted by Hon. Sue Pai Yang, who chairs NAWJ's Judicial Exchange subcommittee, the judges also found time to meet with the professors at Rutgers Law School to discuss jury trials which the Taiwan courts plan to institute in a modified form. With fellow NAWJ members from New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, Judge Yang hosted a dinner for the judges at

her house the last night of their stay on November 1, 2013. Afterwards, Taiwanese judge Hon. Vicky Wu visited Washington, D.C. Judge Coral Pietsch of the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims was host to Judge Wu in Washington, D.C., and Judge Wu also met NAWJ Past President Hon. Joan Churchill.

The Taiwan Judiciary is building a brand new Judicial Center in Taipei to be completed next summer. If you are visiting Taiwan, they invite you to give a seminar and stay at the center.

Members Serve as Panel Judges for NJ LEEP's 'Debater of the Year' Competition



NAWJ members New Jersey Supreme Court Justice Anne Patterson and Hudson County Superior Court Judge Martha Royster, along with Judge Tiffany M. Williams, served on a panel to judge NJ LEEP's Debater of the Year Competition. Through the New Jersey Law and Education Empowerment Project (NJ LEEP) the judges had the honor of witnessing high school juniors and seniors argue a complicated voting rights issue and analyze whether voting dilution had occurred in a minority neighborhood. The legal and public policy arguments that the students articulated and dissected were stunning, according to those attending. Everyone was inspired by the contestants' public speaking skills, legal analysis and social responsibility at such a young age. Anyone interested in volunteering opportunities to educate youth about the law, please contact NJ LEEP Executive Director, Craig Livermore, njleep.org. Additionally,

if you know of any other youth organizations that seek judges to speak with young people, or would like the opportunity to expose their students to a day in the life of a judge, please contact Judge Tiffany Williams at (973)-648-6079.

ALJ Judge Sandra Ann Robinson Receives Roger M. Yancey Award



Judge Sandra Robinson, pictured left, received a letter of congratulations from New Jersey Governor Christ Christie. The letter recognizes her many volunteer efforts and public service. The Hon. Roger M. Yancey Award, given by the Garden State Bar Association, continues the memory of Roger Yancey who was the first African American attorney to become a member of the judiciary in New Jersey. His appointment to the District Court of Essex County by Governor Meyner in 1956 marked a milestone in the New Jersey legal community. He was later elevated to the Criminal Division of the County Court.

Remembering Hon. Dora Prestup Rothschild First Woman Compensation Judge for the New Jersey State Division of Workmen's Compensation

Thanks to Wendy Deer at the Essex County Bar Association for reminding us that NAWJ member Hon. Dora Prestup Rothschild, the first woman compensation judge for the New Jersey State Division of Workmen's Compensation, passed away on July 22, 2013 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She was 106. Judge Rothschild was born in New York City and educated in the Newark public schools. She graduated from the old New Jersey Law School, now Rutgers. Judge Rothschild was admitted to the New Jersey Bar in 1929. She practiced law with her husband, Philip B. Rothschild, starting in 1931 at 744 Broad Street. Prior to being appointed to the bench by then Governor Richard Hughes, she was an attorney for The State Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control. She was a former member of the executive board of the Newark Branch of the NAACP and counsel to the then Essex County Democratic Women. She was a member of the Essex County Bar Association and the National Association of Women Judges. She is survived by her son, Dr. William S. Rothschild, of Santa Fe, N.M.; her grandchildren, Andrew Rothschild of West Palm Beach, Fla.; Gary Rothschild of Pelham, N.Y., and Phyllis Golnik of Carlisle, Massachusetts, and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Philip B. Rothschild, and daughter-in-law, Lois Rothschild.

DISTRICT FOUR (DC,MD,VA)

The District is **planning a Leadership Conference to be held in the Fall, 2014** in Charlottesville, Virginia. It is anticipated that we will start with a dinner Friday evening with educational programming Saturday. More details will be provided as plans are finalized.

Washington Bar Association

District members in association with the Washington Bar Association, on February 25th, presented 'Protecting Your Record: Tips From The Bench For The Bench,' with three distinguished

members of the bench, NAWJ President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, District of Columbia Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Court of Appeals Judge Phyllis D. Thompson and Maryland Court of Special Appeals Judge Michele D. Hotten. This well attended program provided great insight from the panelists and a very lively question and answer period.

Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby Receives Charlotte E. Ray Award from the National Bar Association



On February 4, 2014, the National Bar Association's Greater Washington Area Chapter Women Lawyers Division presented NAWJ President Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby with its

Charlotte E. Ray Award.

Charlotte E. Ray was born on January 13, 1850, in New York City. In the mid-1860's, she attended the Institution for the Education of Colored Youth in Washington, D.C. By 1869, she had become a teacher in the Normal and Preparatory Department at Howard University. It was during that time that she enrolled in the Law Department at Howard University by submitting her application under the name of C.E. Ray, apparently because of Howard University's reluctance at that time to admit women to its law classes. She graduated from the Law Department in February 1872 and was admitted to the District of Columbia Bar on April 23, 1872. She became the first African-American woman, and only the third woman, admitted to practice law in this country. Later in 1872, Ms. Ray opened a law office in the District of Columbia. However, she ultimately was forced to close her office due to insufficient business. Subsequently, she returned to New York City and taught in the public school system in Brooklyn. She continued her quest to open doors by remaining active in the women's suffrage movement until her death at age 60.

Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby Participates on Georgetown Law's Panel on Race and Access to the Justice System

Just days after presiding over NAWJ's memorable 2014 Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conference, Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby participated on the 'Civil Law Ethics & Race' panel presented by the Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics during its biennial Symposium. Additional panelists included Steven H. Schulman, Adjunct Professor, Georgetown Law; James J. Sandman, President, Legal Services Corporation; Ellen Yaroshefsky, Clinical Professor of Law, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law; and panel moderator Michael Frisch, Ethics Counsel and Adjunct Professor, Georgetown Law.

Maryland Chapter's Annual Irma Raker Dinner

The Maryland Chapter held its annual Irma Raker Dinner with the Maryland Women Legislators, Wednesday, February 26, 2014. As in previous years, the First Lady of Maryland, Judge Katy O'Malley, opened the Governor's mansion (Government House) to us for this special occasion. For 20 years, Maryland has been breaking bread with the Women Legislators, providing all with an opportunity to talk informally about issues in the Maryland Legislature and women's issues in general. This event was a great success with 80 in attendance, including Governor Martin O'Malley.

Maryland Chapter Schools High Schools Students on Human Trafficking

On Thursday, March 6th, the Maryland Chapter, in association with Fair Girls, Inc., and District Four Director Toni Clarke conducted a Human Trafficking Workshop directed at youth. This program was

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DISTRICT NEWS

held at Elizabeth Seton High School in Bladensburg, MD with young women from Seton and young men from DeMatha High Schools in attendance. This is one of the few, if not the first, program NAWJ has sponsored designed to enlighten young people about the issues of human trafficking. Our expectation is to develop a kit for use by other members to replicate this program across the country.

Pathways to the Bench by Catholic University Columbus School of Law



From left, moderator and former Catholic University Dean, Vera Myles; panelists are District members NAWJ District of Columbia state chair Judge Heidi Pasichow, Judge Elaine Kaplan, Judge Claudia Barber, and Judge Mary Schoelen. Also seated to far right is Judge Melissa Jones.

There are multiple pathways to a career as a judge, but all involve planning, experience, and networking. That advice was offered by members of Catholic University's Women's Law Caucus on March 17 by a five-member panel of area judges who came to speak at the invitation of the caucus. The event, titled "Pathways to the Bench," was put together by the NAWJ, the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, and the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy. Speakers included Hon. Claudia Barber, District of Columbia Administrative Law Judge; Hon. Claudia Crichlow, District of Columbia Administrative Law Judge; Hon. Krystal Alves, Associate Judge, Prince George's

County Circuit Court; Hon. Judith N. Macaluso, Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia; and Special Master Daria Zane, U.S. Federal Claims Court.

"The panel shared reflections on what experiences prepared them to be judges, particularly experiences as seasoned litigators, and how they reached their positions," said Hannah Cartwright, 2L, President of the Women's Law Caucus. The jurists also emphasized the need to build networks and work with local bar associations and be flexible in taking on new experiences. They encouraged students to think about how they might navigate their own paths to the bench, and also reflected on the role of gender in their work and in their appointments or campaigns to become judges. After the panel, the judges lingered with students, faculty, and guests for a networking reception and answered additional questions.

NAWJ Past President Hon. Gladys Kessler Recognized by the National Association of Women Lawyers with its Leadership Award

The National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL) proudly awarded Senior Judge Gladys Kessler of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia its Leadership Award during the Awards Luncheon at the Midyear Meeting in Washington, D.C. on March 20, 2014. The Award is presented to a woman whose personal contributions have made a direct and significant impact on the advancement of women lawyers and who has promoted diversity in the legal profession.

Judge A. Ellen White Receives Family Law Service Award



Judge A. Ellen White is the Presiding Judge of the Campbell County Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court and has served two terms as Chief Judge of the 24th District Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts. She was named the 2014 recipient of the Family Law Service Award presented by the Virginia State Bar's Family Law Section. The award recognizes people and organizations that have improved family, domestic relations, or juvenile law in Virginia. It was presented April 24 at the section's 30th Annual Advanced Family Law Seminar at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond.

Judge White was nominated for the award by Craig M. Burshem, director of the Division of Child Support Enforcement for the Virginia Department of Social Services. "Judge White has consistently given freely of her time, talent and energies to provide valuable services in advancing family law in Virginia, both to the Virginia legal community and directly to the citizens of Virginia. ... Her leadership in the implementation, development, and expansion of the (Intensive Case Monitoring Program) has helped improve the quality of life for over 2,000 families in 31 jurisdictions throughout the Commonwealth."

Virginia Chief Justice Cynthia Kinser Announces Retirement

The Supreme Court of Virginia announced that Chief Justice Cynthia D. Kinser plans to retire this year. Appointed to the court in 1997, she was elected by her fellow justices to a four-year term as chief that began February 1, 2011, following the death of Chief Justice Leroy Rountree Hassell Jr. She is the first female to serve as chief justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

First Chinese American to the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit



NAWJ President is Graduation Speaker at Washington Middle School for Girls



District of Columbia Court of Appeals Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby was this year's graduation speaker for The Washington School for Girls in Washington, D.C. Sixteen beautiful and brilliant young women graduated from the eighth grade. During her speech, she called on the girls to identify their passions, develop their own voices, and live up to their potential.

DISTRICT FIVE (FL,GA,NC,SC)

FLORIDA

Dade County Judge Gladys Perez is NAWJ's state representative for Florida.

Color of Justice Program at the South Dade Courthouse



On March 31, 2014, NAWJ State Chair, Gladys Perez, presented a Color of Justice program to senior high school students from Homestead High School and Breakthrough Miami Scholars. Participating judges included Chief Judge Bertila Soto and Judges Gladys Perez, Michelle Alvarez Barakat, Michaelle Gonzalez-Paulson, Tanya Brinkley, Monica Gordo, Rosa Figarola, Lisa Walsh, Village of Pinecrest Mayor Cindy Lerner, Miami-Dade Commission on Women Executive Director Laura Morilla and Chair Michelle Dunaj Lucking as well as judges' bailiffs and judicial assistants. Jaqueline

Palacios, judicial assistant, coordinated the event. The students learned about the various paths to the law traveled by the judges, staff and other community leaders. The students participated in a role-playing exercise where they practiced the roles of prosecutor, defender, judge and bailiff.



Informed Voters/Fair Judges

Florida has been actively engaged in the Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project (IVP) voter education project. NAWJ members Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente and Attorney Linda Leali are serving as co-chairs for the Florida State Coordinating Committee.

On January 15, over 60 members of the judiciary, attorneys and other interested citizens convened at Akerman Senterfitt in Miami for a live kick-off of IVP in Florida. This event was hosted by 2012 Annual Conference Friends Committee Co-Chair, Elizabeth Hernandez of Akerman Senterfitt, and NAWJ Vice President for Districts, the Hon. Lisa Walsh. NAWJ members Florida Supreme Court Justices Barbara Pariente and Peggy Quince appeared via video-conference to speak to the group and answer questions regarding the project. There was a tremendous level of enthusiasm and support generated. The event was covered by the *Daily Business Review*. The highlight of the day was the virtual internet premier of 'Fair and Free,' video used by the Project "Fair and Free" designed to educate the public on the importance of a fair and independent judiciary.

On January 24, the District hosted an inaugural Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project training for nearly 60 lawyers at The Florida Bar's Midyear Meeting. It was held in conjunction with the Bar's own voter education project, Benchmarks. This training was conducted by IVP project members Annette Boyd Pitts, Executive Directors of the Law Related Education Group, and Attorney Richard Leventhal.

On February 19, nearly 30 members of IVP's State Coordinating Committee for Florida met at GreenbergTraurig in Miami to discuss IVP project planning. The meeting consisted of three focus groups led by Justice Barbara Pariente, Linda Leali, and Florida Association of Women Lawyers liaison Rebecca Ocariz. The meeting resulted in many dynamic ideas that will be utilized in each of the pilot states participating in the IVP Project.

Judge Gladys Perez reports that she is working on putting on a **Color of Justice program in Homestead geared toward their immigrant community.**

Judge Cindy Lederman received the 2014 National Judge of the Year award by CASA. CASA is a network of programs that recruit, train, and support volunteers to represent the best interest of abused and neglected children in the courtroom and other settings. It annually honors a judge who has furthered the best.

GEORGIA

Georgia Southern University **Professor Rebecca Davis** is NAWJ's state representative for Georgia. Professor Davis was awarded educational leave to complete the biography of Chief Justice Leah Ward Sears, who was the first African American woman to serve as Chief Justice of any state of last resort.

Judge Carla Wang McMillan was sworn in as Associate Justice of the Georgia Court of Appeals.

Judge M. Yvette Miller of the Georgia Court of Appeals received the **Founders Award for Distinction in Profession by the Georgia Association of Black Women** attorneys and the Women of Excellence award by the *Atlanta Daily World*.

Judge Cindy Morris has been selected to serve on the Board of Visitors of Walter F. George School of Law.

Judge Wendy Shoob has been selected to serve in Family Court.

Georgia Court of Appeals Presiding Judge Anne Elizabeth Barnes has completed the **Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource Center Fellowship**. The program offers a specialized science and technology curriculum. She has now been invited to serve on its Board of Directors. She had previously served on the CASA Fashion Show committee and the Truancy Intervention Program.

NORTH CAROLINA

State Court Judge Jane Harper is NAWJ's state representative for North Carolina. Judge Harper serves on the North Carolina Bar Association Judicial Performance Evaluation Committee which is chaired by Hon. Nancy Norelli (retired). The committee recruits retired judges, lawyers, law professors and mediators in order to gather lawyer feedback for new judges, and for those who have chosen to participate. The evaluations were completely private with only the judge and the evaluator seeing the results. The information was not available to voters. The goal was to assist new judges and others who chose to participate in improving their performance before they go on the ballot.

North Carolina Lawyers Weekly presented its Women of Justice awards to North Carolina Supreme Court Justice Cheri Beasley, Court of Appeals Judge Linda Stephens, Chief District Court Judge Elizabeth Keever of Cumberland County, and District Court Judge Rebecca Thorne Tin of Mecklenburg County. **Judge Keever was also awarded Woman of the Year honor.**

SOUTH CAROLINA

Chisa J. Putman is NAWJ's state representative in South Carolina. She received recognition at the *Star of the Quarter* for the South Carolina Young Lawyers Division.

Chief Justice Jean Toal has been reelected to serve as Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court.

Hon. Karen J. Williams who served on the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit before she became ill and retired, died on November 2, 2013. She had been on the list for consideration for the U.S. Supreme Court under President Bush. While she sat on the U.S. Court of Appeals which is located in Virginia, she was from South Carolina. In 2009, the District awarded her the Lady Justice Award in recognition of her status as the most senior ranking of the women judges on the bench of her jurisdiction.

There have been **Color of Justice programs in Charleston in October**, in Orangeburg in November, in Rock Hill and in Spartanburg in February.

DISTRICT SIX (AL,LA,MS,TN)

LOUISIANA

73rd Louisiana State Bar Association's Annual Meeting



Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson and Judge Joy Cossich Lobrano, Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal and NAWJ District 6 Director, stewarded an NAWJ information table at the Louisiana Supreme Court Reception on Thursday, June 5, 2014, at the 73rd Louisiana State Bar Association's Annual Meeting and Louisiana Judicial College, in conjunction with the Louisiana State Bar Association Summer School Conference. The annual conference allows participants to enjoy six days of engaging CLE programming on issues involving criminal, civil, family and other specialty courts, and nationally recognized speakers.

Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal Judge Rosemary Ledet is serving as NAWJ State Chair for Louisiana.

Tulane University Professor Sally Kenney is organizing a panel discussion for undergraduate women who are pre-law at the Newcomb Institute. The panel seeks to encourage women students to consider pursuing careers in the law and judiciary.

Loyola University New Orleans College of Law will host a reception for local judges and woman law students to discuss careers in the judiciary and answer questions in small groups.

There will be a reception in New Orleans to **reconnect the Louisiana attorneys and judges who attended NAWJ's 2014 Annual Conference.**

On March 24, **District Director Judge Joy Cossich Lobrano**, Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal, spoke on a panel discussing trafficking which was presented jointly by the Loyola University's Modern Slavery Research project and the student chapter of Free the Slaves.

Louisiana Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson - Unveiling of Official Portrait



On February 17, 2014, Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson was joined by justices of the Louisiana Supreme Court, judges of the state and federal judiciary, members of The Supreme Court of Louisiana Historical Society, distinguished

members of the legal community, and a host of friends and family in a courtroom ceremony to unveil the official portrait of the Chief Justice.

Also in attendance was the portrait artist Ulrick Jean-Pierre. The portrait, commissioned by the Historical Society, will take its place among the permanent collection of portraits of Chief Justices exhibited in the Louisiana Supreme Court Museum located in the Royal Street courthouse.

The Historical Society was founded in 1992 to preserve the history of the Louisiana Supreme Court and its influence on the development of Civil Law; and to research, publish, and create items and materials of historical interest regarding the Court. Historical Society Board President, Attorney Donna D. Fraiche, began her remarks by introducing the artist, "A native of Haiti, Ulrick Jean-Pierre is renowned for his creation of Haitian historical paintings. His works interpret the elements of the culture of his native land and the historical characters who helped shape the society. Now a resident of New Orleans, Jean-Pierre continues this tradition in his portrait of Chief Justice Johnson by capturing her essence as a leader in the field of law in Louisiana for over 40 years."

This year marks Chief Justice Johnson's 29th year as a member of the Louisiana judiciary, having served as an Orleans Civil District Court judge for 10 years, including a term as Chief Judge, before joining the Supreme Court where she has served the last 19 years. She was sworn in as Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court on February 1, 2013. She is the Court's 25th Chief Justice, the second female Chief Justice and the first African-American Chief Justice. Chief Justice Johnson is a long standing member of the NAWJ and co-chairperson of the October 2013 Annual Conference of the NAWJ.

MISSISSIPPI

Judge Margaret Alfonso, on the Harrison County Court in Gulfport, is NAWJ's state chair for Mississippi.

TENNESSEE

Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Janice M. Holder Receives William M. Leech Jr. Public Service Award from the Tennessee Bar Association



Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Janice M. Holder was presented the 2014 William M. Leech Jr. Public Service Award at the Tennessee Bar Association's (TBA) Annual Meeting in Gatlinburg. Given annually by the TBA Young Lawyers Division Fellows, the award honors a lawyer who has given outstanding service to the legal profession, the legal system and their community. Justice Holder was specifically recognized for her work on lawyers' assistance and access to justice issues.

The Tennessee Bar recognized Justice Holder's actions in making attorney well-being a priority at the state and national level. She was instrumental in establishing the Tennessee Lawyers Assistance Program and has served as the court's liaison to the program. She also has worked on the American Bar Association's Lawyer Impairment Project, the Memphis Bar Association's Lawyers Helping Lawyers Committee and the TBA's Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers initiative – all of which are designed to help lawyers struggling with substance abuse, stress or emotional health issues.

Justice Holder also has been a tireless advocate for access to justice initiatives. Under her leadership in 2009, the court formed its own Access to Justice Commission, which is tackling the need for more lawyers to handle pro bono cases for those who cannot afford a lawyer. The Commission is working on a number of initiatives, including law firm participation programs, increasing law student

involvement, encouraging legal clinics in underserved areas and sponsoring incentive programs for volunteers. Justice Holder has served as the liaison to the commission since its inception and has remained actively involved in its work.

Justice Holder, who will retire when her current term ends on Aug. 31, has served on the state Supreme Court since 1996. In 2008, she became the court's first female chief justice and served in that role for two years. She has been a member of NAWJ since 1992.

DISTRICT SEVEN (MI, OH, WV)



MentorJet - Thomas M Cooley Law School, Grand Rapids



The Thomas M Cooley Law School Grand Rapids campus hosted MentorJet on February 27, 2014. The weather outside was frightful, but the event continued on for those mentors and students who work and live in Kent County.

MentorJet - Thomas M Cooley Law School, Ann Arbor



Mentors for the MentorJet event at the Ann Arbor campus of Thomas M. Cooley School of Law.)

On March 21, 2014, the annual Thomas M. Cooley Law School Ann Arbor Campus Mentor Jet Event took place in the auditorium. The event was hosted by NAWJ and the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Career and Professional Development Office. The event served as a networking opportunity for Cooley students interested in meeting local attorneys and to find out about each of their chosen field of law. Students met with 10 attorneys and judges for six minutes each.

DISTRICT NEWS

During that time, all students were free to ask any professional questions of the attorneys and judges in attendance, such as: how the professionals got started in their careers; what advice the professionals had for aspiring lawyers; what the professionals liked most (or least) about their careers. A reception, provided by Women Lawyer's Association of Michigan-Cooley Chapter, followed the "speed mentoring" portion of the program.

Many judges and attorneys served as mentors. From the bench, the judicial participants included former District Director Hon. Katherine Hansen of the 36th District Court, Judge Laura Mack of the 29th District Court, Chief Judge Milton Mack of the Wayne Court Probate Court, Administrative Law Judge Yasmin Elias, and retired judges Hon. John Gilbreath and longtime NAWJ member Hon. Susan Moiseev. From the bar, local attorneys included: Jinan Hamood, Erika McNamara, Mikhail Murshak, Julia Owdziej, Nick Roumel, Katherine Sharkey, Julie Staple, and Andrew Stumpf.



MentorJet – University of Michigan, Ann Arbor



Judge Sheila R. Johnson (Michigan Law '84), and former NAWJ VP of Publications, mentors a student.



University of Michigan Law students had the opportunity to participate in MentorJet which the NAWJ presented on April 8, 2014. Held for the second year at Michigan Law, MentorJet featured participation from 10 mentors (including five judges) and 21 students.

Cornelia Groefsema Kennedy



Former U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Cornelia Groefsema Kennedy, a legal pioneer who was the first female judge appointed to the federal court bench in Detroit, and the first woman to serve as Chief Judge of any U.S. District Court, died Monday, May 12, 2014, at her home in Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan. She was a Founding Member of NAWJ, and a member until 2011. In 1986 she was recognized by NAWJ as its Honoree of the Year. Cornelia Groefsema Kennedy appears in the above photo left. Her sister, Margaret Groefsema Schaeffer, pictured right, and who was also a judge, passed away at 92, in 2013. A story on both appears in the winter 2013 issue of *Counterbalance*. Photo by Martin Vloet, Michigan Photography.

DISTRICT EIGHT (IL,IN,KY)

ABA 2014 Midyear

The meet and greet held at the ABA Midyear for NAWJ President Anna Blackburne-Rigsby and Vice President Judge Julie Franz was a great success. Participants included the Judicial Division Chair, Justice Mark Martin; National Conference of the Administrative Law Judiciary Chair (NCALJ), Judge Bruce Cooper, and Chair Elect, Judge Judy Boggs, numerous members of the Judicial Division were present, as well as local administrative law judges: John Allen, Chief Judge/Executive Director of the Cook County Administrative Hearings Department; Judge Camela Gardner, Chair of the Illinois Association of Administrative Law Judges; Judge Sharon Strickland Williams representing the Cook County Bar Association; and Judge Stanley Cygan. The Judicial Division is planning to make the meet and greet for the NAWJ President a regular part of the ABA meetings.

NAWJ Members Judges Sophia Hall and Cheryl Cesario hosted a reception for the Judicial Division's National Conference of State Trial Judges and NAWJ at their lovely home.

NAWJ Meets with John Marshall Law School Students



Illinois Women's Bar Association Joins NAWJ on Presentation About Victims of Gender-Related Violence



On May 9, 2014, at the Chicago Bar Association, Women's Bar Association of Illinois (WBAI) joined with NAWJ, the Chicago Bar Association Alliance for Women, Black Women Lawyers' Association, and the CBA/WBAI joint task force on women and aging, to host a presentation about victims of gender-related violence. Anne Ream of The Voices and Faces Project spent much of the last eight years researching and writing *Lived Through This: Listening to the Stories of Sexual Violence Survivors*, a book of narrative and photographic profiles of victims of gender-related violence. Ms. Ream, a survivor of sexual violence, gave a moving and uplifting presentation about her research and book, which Eve Ensler has described as, "heart stopping, beautifully rendered stories of survivors powerfully illustrating the notion that when we tell our stories, we change the story."

District Director Hon. Ann Breen Greco at the Bring Back Our Girls Rally in Chicago, May 10, 2014



DISTRICT NINE (IA, MO, WI)

Hon. Brenda Loftin, NAWJ Past President and creator of NAWJ's Color of Justice program, retired January 14, 2014. We thank Judge Loftin for her service and dedication to NAWJ and look forward to her continued involvement with NAWJ in retirement.

Color of Justice — Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, University of Missouri-St. Louis



Judge Brenda Loftin working with a table full of middle school girls and a teacher at the Girls Summit. Photo by August Jennewein.)

On January 31, 2014, Judge Brenda Loftin partnered with the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life at the University of Missouri-St. Louis for a 'Girls' Summit' to expose 87 sixth through eighth grade girls from diverse backgrounds to education and leadership opportunities that could enable them to fulfill their life goals. Fellow NAWJ members Judge Nannette Baker and Judge Laninya Cason assisted Judge Loftin with the program. The girls were guided through various activities by a team of UMSL students who helped organize the summit. The girls also had the opportunity to interact with a variety of successful professional women including an aspiring attorney, a chief executive officer, a dentist, a graphic designer, a teacher, a social worker, a psychology professor, as well as the judges participating. The Summit was a rousing success. It is hoped the "Girl's Summit" will become another signature program of NAWJ to complement the Color of Justice program. Additional coverage of the Summit can be found at <http://blogs.umsel.edu/news/2014/03/girls-summit>

Hon. Helen C. Adams was named U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Iowa.

Judge Angela T. Quigless, Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, will become Chief Judge on July 1, 2014.

Judge Gloria Reno, Judge Sandra Hemphill, and Commissioner Anne Marie Clarke were **honored with the St. Louis Trailblazer Award**.

In March 2014, Wisconsin Judge Mel Flanagan went to Bosnia Herzegovina as a guest of the **Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)**, and the **Gender and Justice Reform Project**, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Justice, to present education programs to judges and prosecutors.

DISTRICT TEN (KS,MN,ND,SD)

KANSAS

Informed Voters/Fair Judges

NAWJ members have been busy with the launch of the **Informed Voters/Fair Judges** project. Several judges have used the materials produced by NAWJ for their presentations. The **Hon. Karen Arnold-Burger** of the Kansas Court of Appeals spoke to a group of approximately 75 high school students about the importance of the rule of law and neutral, non-political courts. Kansas Supreme Court Justice Carol Beier participated in a panel discussion on judicial independence at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. **The Hon. Cheryl Rios Kingfisher was joined by the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, and Jim Robinson**, a partner with Hite, Fanning & Honeyman L.L.P. in Wichita as they spoke about the Informed Voters Project at the Wichita Bar Association.

MINNESOTA

The public 'swearing-in' ceremony for **Fourth Judicial District Judges Marta Chou, Nicole Engisch and Carolina Lamas** was held on March 4, 2014. These additions to the judicial bench in Minnesota will be chambered in **Hennepin County, our largest judicial district**.

The Annual Judicial Luncheon took place at the end of February at the University of Minnesota Law School. The Luncheon was sponsored by the Women's Law Student Association which provides a forum for addressing the role of women in the law, and the effect of legal doctrines and practice on issues integral to women. **The Luncheon is a vehicle for introducing law students to the judiciary.**

The University of St. Thomas Law School and the Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society will present **A View From the Bench**, which will include an introduction by Minnesota's Chief Justice Lorie Gildea, and perspectives on the history of the Minnesota Supreme Court from former Chief Justice Kathleen Blatz.

Hamline University School of Law hosted women judges for a social and panel discussion on clerkship opportunities. Unfortunately this event coincided with yet another blizzard.

And a fourth law school in Minnesota, William Mitchell Law School of Law, hosted its annual **Women in the Law Tea** in April. The Tea event awards scholarships to women attending law school.

NORTH DAKOTA

Supreme Court Appointments



NAWJ member Justice Mary Muehlen Maring retired on December 31, 2013, after almost 18 years on the North Dakota Supreme Court. While serving on the Court, Justice Maring started the Justice Teaching Institute, a program that brings high school teachers to the court to learn about the law. She also was instrumental in starting the Juvenile Drug Court Program. Although she has retired,

Justice Maring will continue to serve the court as a Surrogate Judge.



Justice Lisa Fair McEvers was sworn in on January 17, 2014, as the fourth woman to serve on the North Dakota Supreme Court. Justice McEvers is a 1997 graduate of the University of North Dakota School of Law. Her legal career began prior to law school graduation when she was hired as an administrative assistant to the Presiding Judge of the Northeast Judicial

District. After law school, she was a law clerk with the North Dakota Supreme Court for one year, and then entered private practice. In 2001, she became Assistant State's Attorney in Cass County. In 2005, Justice McEvers was appointed as North Dakota Commissioner of Labor. She served in that capacity until she was appointed District Court Judge in the East Central District Court. She was elected to the position in 2012, and served as a Trial Court Judge until her appointment to the Supreme Court.

DISTRICT ELEVEN (AR,OK,TX)

Paving the Way for Diversity



Law student Andrea Meza and Judge Orlinda Naranjo.

On April 16, 2014, NAWJ District Judge Director Orlinda Naranjo, in partnership with the Travis County Women Lawyers Association (TCWLA), and University of Texas (UT) School of Law William Wayne Justice Center for Public Law, along with several sponsoring law firms, Baker Botts, LLP, Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati, PC, and Winstead PC held the seventh Color of Justice Event for the city of Austin's youth. There were approximately 70 primarily minority students from two different high schools, East Austin College Preparatory, and Akins.

As part of the program, UT second year law student, Andrea Meza, received a \$1,000 "Access to Justice Scholarship" given by NAWJ for her demonstrated commitment to the achievement of equality of opportunity and access in the justice system. She shared that her interest in immigration law arose because she attended college in Arizona and saw firsthand the discrimination against the undocumented. She worked in an immigration law clinic, did pro bono work with Legal Aid and UT Immigration Clinic, which lead to her recognition by the law school as a pro bono scholar.

The event also featured two panel discussions with speakers sharing their personal experiences, backgrounds, encouraging the students to pursue a career in law, discussing the importance of personal commitment and perseverance, and the role and importance of lawyers and judges in our society. The first panel, titled "The Color of Justice: Making a Difference," was led by several esteemed judges, including several who are the first African American and Latinas on their respective benches, Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman, Travis County Judges Orlinda Naranjo (419th Judicial District), Brenda Kennedy (403rd Judicial District), and Carlos Barrera (Court County Court at Law #8). The moderator was Elizabeth Branch with TCWLA.

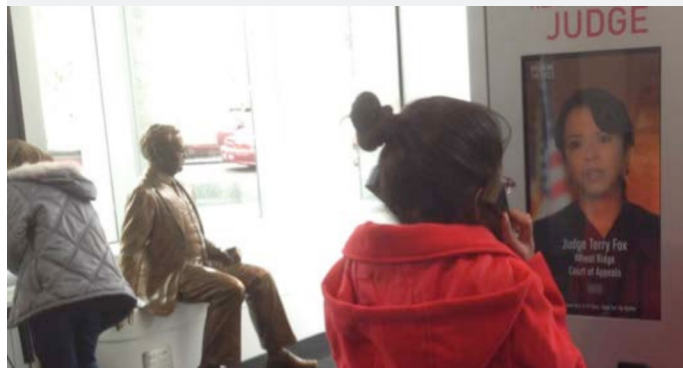
The second panel, titled "Law as a Career: Preparing the Way" featured legal professionals, solo practitioner, Manuel Escobar with McGinnis Lochridge, LLP; Gary Cobb, Assistant District Attorney; and Tracy McCormack, Director of Advocacy Programs at UT Law School. Moderating the panel were Diana Reinhart, attorney with Richardson and Burgess, LLP and President of the TCWLA; and Andrea Meza, UT School of Law student and recipient of this year's scholarship.

DISTRICT TWELVE (AZ,CO,NM,UT,WY)

The Ralph Carr Judicial Center in Denver, Colorado Provides an Interactive Learning Experience by Ryann Tamm

The Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center had a younger-than-usual crowd on Friday, November 22, 2013. That day, more than 70 fifth-graders from Twombly Elementary School made the trip from Fort Lupton to Denver, Colorado to visit the Carr building, which houses the Colorado Supreme Court and Colorado Court of Appeals. Their visit to the Carr Center — which opened in December, 2012 and was dedicated on May 3, 2013 — provided an opportunity for the students to learn about the judicial system, the rule of law, and what it takes to become a judge.

When the students arrived at the Carr Center, their first stop was the first-floor Court of Appeals Courtroom, where they met Court of Appeals Judge Terry Fox — who is District 12 Director for the National Association of Women Judges — for an inside look at Colorado's judicial system. Judge Fox welcomed the students to the Court, and gave a presentation which explained the importance of the rule of law, described the role of judges in the judicial system, and outlined the appellate process. Judge Fox also answered students' questions about the Court of Appeals and about her responsibilities as an appellate judge.



A Twombly student at the "Hear from a Judge" exhibit in the Colorado Judicial Learning Center.

The students were especially interested in learning what it takes to become a judge. Judge Fox, like many of the Twombly students, grew up in a Spanish-speaking household. She was the first in her family to graduate from college, and went on to become the first lawyer — and first judge — in her family. The best preparation for a career in the law, Judge Fox told the students, is a good education.

After their visit with Judge Fox, the Twombly students toured the Carr Center. Many stopped in the atrium to admire the glass dome overhead and the large tile image of the columbine flower underfoot. They then saw the Supreme Court courtroom and paid a visit to Judge Fox's chambers. Some students even visited the Court of Appeals robing room, a private dressing room for the judges that is rarely seen by members of the public.



Photo left: Jacob Trujillo dons a judicial robe in the Learning Center. Photo right: Twombly students tour the Learning Center.

The Twombly students ended their tour in the Colorado Judicial Learning Center, a 4,000 square-foot interactive classroom in the Carr building with games, videos, and learning tools for all ages. There, they were able to take a self-guided tour of Colorado's judicial branch and the history of the rule of law.



Twombly students use the Learning Center's interactive exhibits

Before long, it was time for the students to head back to Fort Lupton. They filtered out of the building and back onto the school buses that brought them there. But as they left, many glanced back at the huge stone pillars and the glass dome exterior of the Carr Center, and it was not hard to imagine that there might be a few future lawyers, and maybe even some future judges, in their ranks.

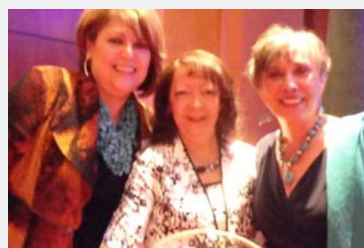
One of the Twombly teachers, Mr. Steven Trujillo, said the following about the students' experience: "Visiting with Judge Fox at the Ralph Carr Center helped my students better understand the importance of education and the rewards of hard work." The teachers and students thank Jordan Fox — of Sherman & Howard LLC — for his contribution to their transportation costs. A student, Hilda Salas, summed up her experience as follows: "It was an amazing day!"

Ryan Tamm is a 2013 graduate of the University of Colorado Law School, and currently serves as an appellate law clerk to Judge Terry Fox on the Colorado Court of Appeals. Ryan, along with his co-clerk, Jessica Lowery, a 2012 Colorado Law graduate and a NAWJ law clerk division member, helped welcome the Twombly students to the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center.

With Induction into Hall of Fame, Judge Christine Arguello Joins Colorado's Pioneering Women by Ryann Tamm

The members of the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame are pioneering Colorado women from just about every race, creed, profession, background, and economic level. They include engineers, scientists, business leaders, teachers, and journalists. Some, like former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and philanthropist and Titanic survivor Molly Brown, are widely known; others are familiar only to the communities they have impacted. But each member worked to open new frontiers for women in Colorado.

On Thursday, March 20, the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame welcomed another trailblazing woman, federal U.S. District Court Judge Christine Arguello.



Judge Arguello (center), with friends Juana Bordas (right) and Juanita Chacon (left), poses with the plate commemorating her induction into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame.

Judge Arguello's career has been a long list of firsts. She was the first Hispanic woman to be promoted to partner at a major Colorado law firm. In the late 1990s, she left behind the trappings of the big firm lifestyle to become the first Hispanic tenured professor at the University of Kansas School of Law. She later opted for public service,

becoming the first Hispanic Chief Deputy Attorney General for Colorado. And when the U.S. Senate confirmed her nomination to the federal bench in 2008, Judge Arguello became the first Hispanic woman to serve as a federal district court judge in the District of Colorado.

The most remarkable thing about Judge Arguello's superlative career is not her long list of professional achievements, but the example she has set for others.

Judge Arguello was born in Thatcher, Colorado — a tiny, mostly abandoned railroad depot between Trinidad and La Junta that doesn't appear on many maps. The miniscule Southern Colorado town doesn't even have a post office. Because her parents couldn't afford to go to a hospital, Judge Arguello was born at home. Her father, a railroad worker, housed his family most of the time in houses provided by the railroad company. But when the houses were full, the family slept in boxcars until space in a house opened up. She was the eldest daughter in a family with six children, and grew up understanding that women were expected to work inside the home rather than pursue professional careers.

But when she was just 13 years old, Christine Arguello found a nugget of inspiration: a magazine article about lawyers, featuring photos of Harvard Law School. She was in seventh grade, and the only "career women" she knew were her school teachers. Nevertheless, swept up by the photos of Harvard's beautiful campus, she decided she was destined to attend Harvard Law School and become a lawyer.

For most young dreamers, this type of inspiration fades with time. As other interests evolve and challenges arise, it becomes easy to adopt less lofty goals. But Arguello was determined that Harvard, and a career in the law, were her fate. With the support and encouragement of a few teacher mentors, she finished high school near the top of her class. She then attended the University of Colorado Boulder, graduating as the valedictorian of her class. And when she finished college, as she had planned since age 13, she became the first Latina from Colorado to enroll in Harvard Law School.



Judge Arguello's close friends — Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Revenue Barbara Brohl (left), Colorado Court of Appeals Judge Terry Fox (second from left), and Attorney Teresa Casillas (right) — were on hand to witness the induction.

Her March 20 induction into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame marked another first for Judge Arguello: she is the first federal judge to be inducted into the hall.

Her induction, however, was the result of not only her professional achievements, but also her contributions to her community and to society. Throughout her career, Judge Arguello has encouraged students to aim as high as she did, and she has tried to help those students achieve their goals by mentoring, opening doors, training, and networking. Early in her career, she served as a trustee for Pikes Peak Legal Services in Colorado Springs, and as a trustee on the Colorado Springs District 11 school board. At the University of Kansas, she founded the KU/Lawrence High School Partnership program, and co-founded the Hispanic Network of KU. She is still active in the Colorado Hispanic Bar Association and the Hispanic National Bar Association, and she continues to teach and mentor lawyers, law students, and other young women who seek her advice.

This year, the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame honored ten women — six contemporary and four posthumous honorees — with induction into the hall. Along with Judge Arguello, they include a newspaper publisher, a television personality-turned civic leader, a world aviation speed record holder, as well as engineers, scientists, journalists, and an architect.

Judge Arguello continues to build her legacy. But for all her accolades, she still measures success by the words of a poem she keeps nearby:

SUCCESS

To laugh often and much;

To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children;

To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends;

To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others;

To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition;

To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.

This is to have succeeded.

COLORADO COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE KAREN ASHBY (NAWJ COLORADO DIRECTOR) IS HONORED BY THE COLORADO WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION by Jessica Lowrey



The Colorado Women's Bar Association (CWBA) honored Judge Karen Ashby with the 2014 Judicial Award on March 6, 2014. The CWBA grants this award annually to a jurist who demonstrates a positive contribution to the Colorado legal community, advocates for women and children, and helps advance women in the law. Judge Ashby does all three with great poise, intelligence, and warmth.

Growing up in a military family, Judge Ashby lived in England, in New Hampshire, and in Colorado. Her parents were very active in the civil rights movement during her youth, and her family participated in various protests related to the integration of public schools. Judge Ashby's commitment to justice has carried with her into adulthood.

After graduating from the University of Denver College of Law in 1983, Judge Ashby worked for five years at the Public Defender's Office in Denver, Colorado. She later had her own law practice where she practiced criminal defense, family law, and juvenile law. She also served as guardian ad litem, represented parents in dependency and neglect cases, and was a hearing officer for the Aurora Public Schools.

In 1998, Judge Ashby took her passion for helping women, children, and families to new heights when she was appointed to the Denver Juvenile Court. She was the first African-American woman judge appointed in Colorado. According to Judge Ashby, some of her colleagues suggested that she wait and apply for a general (and more prestigious) District Court position. But she saw the need for compassionate, fair, and creative judges in juvenile court, and there was no other work she would rather do.

During Judge Ashby's fifteen-year tenure on the Denver Juvenile Court, she pioneered countless programs to improve the judicial process for children and families, including:

The Creative Options Committee: a collaborative effort between court-appointed guardians ad litem, public school leaders, and Mayor's office staff, designed to identify alternatives to detention for youth charged with truancy.

Model Court pilot project: which improved court practices in child abuse and neglect cases.

National Advisory Committee on the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders and Other Non-Delinquent Youth: in partnership with the Coalition of Juvenile Justice, this project seeks to effectively serve youth offenders without detention.

In 2013, several judges on the Colorado Court of Appeals, including NAWJ members, independently asked Judge Ashby to apply to the court. With her appointment in September 2013, she became the first African-American woman appointed to the Colorado Court of Appeals, bringing her expertise in juvenile law and criminal law to the court.

The CWBA honored Judge Ashby's service with the 2014 Judicial Award. Court of Appeals Judge Diana Terry, the 2013 recipient of the award, introduced Judge Ashby noting: "Judge Ashby brings an unparalleled experience in juvenile and family law, super intelligence, diligence, and leadership to the Court of Appeals." Her new colleagues are happy to have her, even as her former colleagues are sad to see her go.

Judge Ashby is an inspiration to new female lawyers, like me. She is recognized in the legal and non-legal communities for her dedication to helping women, children, and families, and for treating all litigants with compassion and respect. Her distinguished career — which is not even close to finished — demonstrates all you can achieve if you follow your heart.

Jessica Lowrey currently serves as an appellate law clerk to Judge Terry Fox of the Colorado Court of Appeals. Judge Fox is District 12 Director for the NAWJ, serving Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. A 2012 University of Colorado Law School graduate, Jessica Lowrey is a NAWJ law clerk member. She has written previous newsletter accounts on the Storybook Project in Colorado.

DISTRICT THIRTEEN (AK, HI, ID, MT, OR, WA)

Alaska is honored to be one of the eight states the focus of NAWJ's Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project (IVP), developed under the leadership of Justice Joan Irion of the California Court of Appeals. Our local coordinating committee is working creatively on ways to distribute to voters the excellent materials created by the IVP, including the short film in which former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor emphasizes the importance of fair and free courts. This is such an important project nationally, and has particular significance for Alaska's retention election system.

In June, Alaska hosted its annual Color of Justice program. The program is always well received and attended.

DISTRICT FOURTEEN (CA, NV)

NAWJ 36th Annual Conference- Protecting & Advancing Meaningful Access to Justice

The co-chairs of NAWJ's 2014 Annual Conference, Hon. Tamila E. Ipema and Hon. Margie G. Woods, and their incredible team have been very busy planning the upcoming conference in San Diego. The Conference is scheduled on October 15-19, 2014, and will be held at the Westin San Diego Gaslamp Quarter. The hotel is conveniently located in downtown San Diego, in walking distance to: Harbor, Horton Plaza Shopping Mall, the Gaslamp Quarter restaurants and shops. The famous San Diego Zoo, Historic Balboa Park, Sea world, LEGOLAND, and Safari Wild Animal Park, Old Town, etc., are all a short distance away.

The theme of the conference is "Protecting & Advancing Meaningful Access to Justice". Please see conference highlights on page or visit http://www.nawj.org/annual_2014.asp for more



Judges Karen Ashby, Terry Fox, and Diana Terry. All three serve on the Colorado Court of Appeals and are NAWJ members.)

details before making your travel plans. There are a number of optional tours in the morning of Wed. October 15th, and an additional program on Sunday morning that you would not want to miss. See you in San Diego!

Judge Diana Becton Continues to Serve

Judge Diana Becton, is a Superior Court Judge in Contra Costa County, and an active member of the NAWJ. She is currently assigned to the First District Court of Appeal to sit as Judge Pro Tempore. Judge Becton was elected to serve on NAWJ' Board of Directors as Secretary for the 2013-14 year. She was just previously the District's Director from 2011-2013. Judge Becton was appointed to serve on the State Bar Council on Access and Fairness for 2013-2015. She also serves as the judicial liaison for California Women Lawyers (North). She remains extremely active in many community outreach activities. We congratulate Judge Becton and thank her for her dedication to Justice.

Women in Prison Book Club, Hon. Marguerite D. Downing Receives Humanitarian Award

Judge Marguerite D. Downing chairs the Incarcerated Parents Working Group in California. She has been working with the Department of Corrections' California Institution for Women in Corona to support a book club started by the Acting Warden Kimberly Hughes. The Warden has asked for specific titles which are scheduled for their upcoming book club. The Warden has also been working on getting titles that are reflective and empowering to the women at the facility and she is also working on getting authors to come out to CIW and discuss their books. You can support the book club via NAWJ's Wish List on Amazon. Go there now! Thank you Judge Downing for your dedication and community service.

Furthermore, Hon. Marguerite D. Downing and Warden Hughes were recently honored for their work with incarcerated parents. Judge Downing received a Humanitarian Award for "Talk about Parenting" with Shirley Smith Program. Judge Downing sits on the California Superior Court for Los Angeles County. Ms. Smith conducts parenting within the prison facility and provides after care support for incarcerated mothers returning into the community.



Judge Jill Burkhardt, San Diego's Newest Federal Magistrate Judge

Hon. Jill Burkhardt was sworn in on March 11, 2014, as the newest federal Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court's Southern District of California. Before joining the bench, she was an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California. As a prosecutor,

Judge Burkhardt was assigned to several different sections of the Criminal Division during her career, including the Narcotics Enforcement Section and the General Crimes Section. In her last two years in that office, she served as the U.S. Attorney's Director of Community Outreach. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, Judge Burkhardt had a civil litigation practice as an Associate with the San Diego office of Baker and McKenzie. Judge Burkhardt has been active in the community, and has served on the boards of directors of the San Diego County Bar Association, Lawyers Club of San Diego, and Women of Color in Law. She was the President of both the San Diego County Bar Association and Lawyers Club of San Diego. She has a long history of pro bono work and volunteerism,

which has included rape crisis counseling, community education, coaching mock trial, and volunteering in the public schools. Judge Burkhardt received a BA from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School. She is married and the proud mother of two sons.

Fourth Annual Orange County Speed Mentoring Program



Hon. Jamoa Moberly chaired her annual Speed Mentoring event on October 3, 2013 at Chapman University Law School in Orange County, California. NAWJ partners with Orange County Women Lawyers each year on this program, and include judges of the Orange County bench and local attorneys who mentor current and newly graduated law students from Chapman, University of California, Irvine, Whittier, Western State and Pepperdine Schools of Law. The Chapman Career Services office, in conjunction with the Women Law Students Association, hosts a dinner before the speed mentoring begins. It was a big success, and most mentors return each year. We congratulate Judge Moberly for the success of her program, and admire her continued dedication to the NAWJ mission.

San Diego Annual Conference Friends Committee Host Kickoff



The San Diego County Bar Association hosted a kickoff reception on November 14, 2013 NAWJ President Judge Blackburne-Rigsby spoke to participants about the history of NAWJ and its mission. She also introduced Justice Joan Irion as the recipient of the 2013 Justice Vaino Spencer Leadership Award honoree, and praised her work on the Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project. Justice Irion created the project to educate voters about an important of the role of an independent judiciary amongst our three branches of government, and the importance of protecting the judiciary against unwarranted attacks by special interest groups and improper political interference and pressures.

Color of Justice Soars Triumphant in San Diego for the Fourth Year in a Row



Hon. Tamila E. Ipema chaired another Color of Justice Program in San Diego Superior Court on May 1, 2014. The Program was presented in collaboration with the San Diego Superior Court and the San Diego County Bar Association. The participation of more than 40 highly accom-

plished judicial officers and Attorneys as mentors made this program a huge success. Judge Tamila E. Ipema welcomed mentors and 35 students (grades 9 to 12) from San Diego High School of International Studies, and gave a brief history of NAWJ, described her own background, and laid the objectives of the program and the schedule to follow. The program was held at the Hall of Justice in San Diego.

Jon Williams, President of the San Diego County Bar Association rendered words of wisdom and encouraged the students to take advantage of this wonderful program and meet as many mentors as possible during the mentor jet portion of the program.

Hon. Susan Finlay (Retired), San Diego County Superior Court Judge, moderated a panel discussion which included Hon. Desiree Bruce-Lyle, San Diego Superior Court Judge. Other panel members included Ms. Marcella McLaughlin, Deputy District Attorney, San Diego County District Attorney's Office; Mellania Safarian, University of San Diego Law Student; and Yarazel Mejorado, Justice Corps and University of California San Diego student.

At the conclusion of the program, the students were awarded NAWJ Color of Justice Certificates, NAWJ bag and other items.

The feedback from the students, teachers, and mentors was extremely positive. There was an amazing positive energy in the air, and both students and mentors enjoyed the opportunity to get a chance to talk one to one with each other.

Julie Myers, Senior Administrative analyst for the San Diego Superior Court moderated the speed mentoring portion of the program. She is always instrumental in putting the program together and works side by side with Judge Ipema, to accomplish the goals of the color of justice program. Additional thanks goes to Amber Scott, Amoreena Urbeck, Deanna Blanchard, Deputy Sheriff Joe Arnold, Jon Williams who work behind the scenes to make this program a great success.

INTERNATIONAL

A REPORT FROM THE CORNELL UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL AVON GLOBAL CENTER FOR WOMEN & JUSTICE 2013 WOMEN AND JUSTICE CONFERENCE SENIOR ROUNDTABLE ON WOMEN IN THE JUDICIARY

by Judge Joan Churchill, NAWJ Past President, December 18, 2014

The Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School held its 2013 Women and Justice Conference and Senior Roundtable on Women in the Judiciary December 10-12 in New York City at the United Nations. The focus was State Responsibility to Act with Due Diligence to Eliminate Violence against Women. United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, Rashida Manjoo of South Africa, delivered the keynote address, elaborating on her 2013 Report to the U.N. Human Rights Council.¹

Noting that as a general rule, State responsibility is limited to acts or omissions committed either by State actors or by actors whose actions are attributable to the State, Professor Manjoo advanced the novel argument that the due diligence principle, which she cited as an exception to the general rule, applies to accord responsibility to States to eliminate violence against women notwithstanding that the perpetrators are often non state actors. According to the due diligence principle, a State may incur responsibility where there is a failure to exercise due diligence to prevent or respond to certain acts or omissions of non-State actors. Professor Manjoo further argued that more individualized approaches need to be developed to deal with the problem of violence against women, taking into account the variety of vulnerability factors and cultural and religious circumstances, rather than the across the board approach currently in use globally.

Speaker panels and the judicial roundtable over the next couple days discussed ways to implement the concept of State responsibility. Judges from 16 other countries participated, including 2 from international tribunals, along with U.S. judges, academics and representatives of NGOs.² The speakers examined ways to provide services and compensation to victims, structural and legal frameworks, and the role of judges on both national and international courts. We heard about the case of Jessica Gonzales, whose 3 children were killed by her husband after police in Castlerock, Colorado failed to enforce a protective order. After being turned down by the U.S. Supreme Court³, she took her case

to the Inter American Commission on Human Rights, which ruled that the United States "failed to act with due diligence to protect Jessica Lenahan and (her daughters) ... from domestic violence, which violated the state's obligation not to discriminate and to provide for equal protection before the law."⁴ Discussion ensued on the difficulty of enforcing an international ruling such as this, as well as the difficulty of enforcing protective orders.

The discussion highlighted the practical difficulties involved in protecting women from violence generally, in light of cultural, political, and religious constraints. For example, female genital mutilation continues to be practiced, in countries where it has been a tradition, notwithstanding it has been outlawed. The gun culture in the United States renders U.S. women 11 times more likely to be killed by guns than women in any other high income country, but gun regulation is limited by our Supreme Court's interpretation of the 2d Amendment of the Constitution to allow individual possession of firearms. In some countries, it is the tradition for a bride to relocate to the community of her husband, which limits the ability of judges to issue protective orders requiring him to leave the home, as the home is owned by her husband or his family. A judge from India shared that in such a circumstance, she issued an order directing separate hours for use of the kitchen by the parties. In Egypt, we were told, husbands have a right under religious law to "discipline" wives, which creates a dilemma in differentiating between domestic assault and acceptable discipline. The judge from South Africa decried the high level of rape in her country, even of very young girls and babies, brought on, in part, by a belief by some that the rape will cure HIV infection.

It was agreed that we face considerable challenges in finding ways to eliminate violence against women and that there is much work to be done. Professor Manjoo argued that in addition to legislation, compensation and provision of services, there is a need to address structural causes. This will require transforming society to change stereotypes and to greater empowerment of women. Training programs to raise awareness is seen as one step that works. The judge from Argentina told us about a program there in which judges visit high schools to inculcate gender sensitivity among teenagers. We shared about a similar program being planned by the NAWJ Maryland Chapter for a boys school in Maryland. All agreed that training programs to sensitize judges, police, prosecutors, and all levels of the justice system work. Increasing the number of women on the bench, and in legislatures is seen as steps that would work.

It was agreed that there is much that judges can do, including attention to sensitive scheduling, controlling inappropriate questions to witnesses, speaking out on issues that affect the administration of justice, participating in training, and supporting judicial and professional organizations concerned with justice issues. The conference and judicial round table, well organized by Elizabeth Brundige, the Cornell Law School Avon Center's Executive Director (and former IAWJ intern), provided an opportunity for an in depth discussion of an intractable issue and highlighted and inspired the importance of focusing attention on the work that needs to be done.

¹ www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session23/A_HRC.23.49_English.pdf

² NAWJ members participating, in addition to myself, included Lynn Schafran of Legal Momentum, Joan Winship, the IAWJ Executive Director, and Judges Ellen Gesner, Mel Flanagan, Marcy Kahn, Virginia Kendall, and Barbara Rothstein.

³ *Castle Rock v. Gonzales*, 545 U.S. 748 (2005)

⁴ IACHR report No. 80/11 case 12.626 merits Jessica Lenahan (Gonzales) et al. United States

‘NO MORE. NO MORE, NO MORE’: A SPEECH TO THE UNITED NATIONS

BY HON. MUMTAZ BARI-BROWN



NAWJ District 3 members and the Garden State Bar Association Judicial Council congratulate Judge Mumtaz Bari-Brown on her impactful speech at the United Nations. Judge Bari-Brown participated on a panel that focused on eradicating social norms and traditional values in the international community that lead to the violation of women's human rights. She gave a stirring call to action that we all have a personal responsibility to stand up for injustice when we are faced with decisions to further these types of policies, both in the United States and abroad. Her examples from American jurisprudence during times when our country succumbed to the social norm of justifying slavery and its evils were a persuasive reminder of our judicial responsibility in the face of injustice. Everyone attending was compelled.

(In photo: New Jersey Administrative Law Judge Mumtaz Bari-Brown is third from right. NAWJ member Judge Cathy Hollenberg stands immediate right, and Mrs. Sally (Salwa) S. Kader immediate left.)

THE ADDRESS

I am humbled and honored to be a part of this panel on traditional values, culture - women's human rights.

My name is Mumtaz Bari Brown. Like many of you, I wear several hats. I am mother, Administrative Law Judge for the State of New Jersey, attorney, member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority and the Links, Inc., each a non-profit service organization which claims more than 10,000 females. I am Christian and I am a woman.

In any of these roles, my everyday thoughts, decisions and conduct include the use, or at least the recognition of, traditional values and the guaranteed human right to think, speak and act.

Often, I am not conscious of the effect my cultural or religious values have on my behavior. Perhaps, they are usually in harmony. However, there have been occasions, when I am keenly aware, either personally or professionally, that one's traditional values and culture cannot co-exist with the individual's guaranteed human rights.

When traditional values conflict with guaranteed human rights, then we must make a choice; when traditional values threaten to diminish, undermine or weaken guaranteed human rights, then we must pause, re-examine and stake claim to our innate right to freedom, justice and equality. When traditional values seek to overthrow, abolish, or destroy guaranteed human rights, then we must take a stand.

The choice is evident. The position is: traditional values and culture must yield in support of guaranteed human rights for all peoples of the world.

On September 27, 2012, United States Ambassador Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe clearly explained our position at the 21st session of the Human Rights Council. The United States voted "no" on the resolution entitled "Promoting Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms through a Better Understanding of Traditional Values of Humankind".

Ambassador Donahoe affirmed:

Traditional values, not anchored to, or in conformity with, human rights law, undermine the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

For the following reasons, we will vote "no".

The term "traditional values" has no internationally agreed-upon definition. It could be used to legitimize human rights abuses.

[T]hose who challenge gender roles reinforced by values said to be traditional, cultural, or religious are particularly subject to violence and abuse of human rights...

Traditional and cultural values in western countries propagate harmful practices, such as domestic violence...

I believe traditional values and guaranteed human rights are able to coexist as assured under contract between government and its citizens.

For example, the United States Constitution, which includes the Bill of Rights, e.g., freedom of speech, press, religion. The US constitution eventually abolished slavery under the 13th Amendment; followed by the 14th Amendment, which guarantees all citizens equal rights and protection under the laws and the 15th Amendment, which guarantees all former slaves suffrage, or the right to vote in public elections.

However, I am mindful and ever observant of the legacy that fore-shadows the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments – also called reconstruction amendments.

Two examples of the legacy:

State v John Mann

In 1829, in the state of North Carolina, Elizabeth Jones owned a slave named Lydia. Jones hired out Lydia for a year to John Mann. Lydia was unhappy with the arrangement, and at one point Mann decided to punish her by whipping her. Lydia escaped during the punishment, and began to run away. Mann shouted to her, ordering her to stop, but Lydia continued to run. Mann then shot and wounded her.

John Mann was charged with assault and battery. The question for the jury:

If the punishment Mann inflicted was "cruel and disproportionate to the offense committed by the slave Lydia, the defendant was guilty, particularly since he was not even her owner.

The jury believed that the punishment was cruel and disproportionate to the offense committed and found Mann guilty.

Mann appealed to the Supreme Court of North Carolina. Chief Judge Thomas Ruffin, a southerner with little sympathy for slavery rendered a powerful and logical pro-slavery opinion.

Focused on the fact that slavery was legal in North Carolina, the court stated:

"It is criminal in a court to avoid any responsibility which the laws impose...

The court is compelled to express an opinion upon the extent of the dominion of the master over the slave in North Carolina..."

Although Mann did not own Lydia, and Elizabeth Jones might well be able to sue him for damaging her property, Mann still had the right to use as much force to control Lydia as Jones herself would have had, since Lydia was legally under his control.

The question, then, was how much force a master could use against his slave?

Slavery was designed for the good of the master, and not for the good of the slave.

In order for the master to have the full benefit of the slave, he had to be able to break the slave's will, to make the slave obey him....

The slave, to remain a slave, must be made sensible; there is no appeal from the master."

The court would not interfere with the master's power over his slave...in short; the law gave the master absolute power over the slave.

Akin to the 13th Amendment of the US Constitution –are Articles 3, 4 and 5 of the Declaration of Human Rights. They avow, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person (3)", "no one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms (4)" and "no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (5)."

Indeed, "traditional values" are frequently invoked to justify human rights violations against women and girls. But let us be mindful that women are not the only victims in which "traditional values" and public opinion prevail over the fundamental human right to be treated with dignity and equality.

Another stinging example is the case of:

People v Hall

In 1854 the California Supreme Court ruled that the testimony of a Chinese man who witnessed a murder by a white man was inadmissible.

The ruling was largely based upon the prevailing opinion that the Chinese were an inferior race of people.

The court stated:

"The 39th Section of the Act concerning civil cases provides that no Indian or Negro shall be allowed to testify as a witness in any action or proceeding in which a white person is a party.

"The 14th Section of the Act regulating criminal proceedings provides that no Black or Mulatto person, or Indian, shall be allowed to give evidence in favor of, or against a White man."

The court "carefully considered all the consequences resulting a different rule of construction" and relied in large part on traditional values and on "public policy".

The court concluded:

To allow the Chinese to testify, would admit them to all the equal rights of citizenship, and we might soon see them at the polls, in the jury box, upon the bench, and in our legislative halls...this ... is an actual and present danger.

A race of people [Chinese]whom nature has marked as inferior, and who are incapable of progress or intellectual development beyond a certain point, ...differing in language, opinions, color, and physical conformation; ...

[They claim] not only the right to swear away the life of a citizen, but the further privilege of participating with us in administering the affairs of our government.

There can be no doubt as to the intention of legislature; we are of opinion that the testimony was inadmissible. The judgment is reversed."

The mindset of the courts in 1829 (John Mann) and 1854 (People v Hall) goes against the grain of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. While we have come a long way in gaining equal rights and protection for women, statistics show much has yet to be accomplished.

A US government survey of rape and domestic violence released in December, 2011 revealed nearly 1 in 5 women say they have been sexually assaulted. Sexual violence against women remains endemic in the United States. One in four reported having been beaten by an intimate partner. One in six women has been stalked.

Victims of sexual violence, rape or stalking reported symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, and were also more likely to report having asthma, diabetes or irritable bowel syndrome than women who had not.

The State of New Jersey has stepped up to the plate in passing the Domestic Violence Act (N.J.S.A. 2c:25-18 (2013)

Findings and Declarations:

The legislature finds and declares that domestic violence is a serious crime against society;

That there are thousands of persons in this state who are regularly beaten, tortured and in some cases even killed by their spouses or cohabitants;

That victims of domestic violence come from all social and economic backgrounds and ethnic groups;

That there is a positive correlation between spousal abuse and child abuse; and that children, even when they are not themselves physically assaulted, suffer deep and lasting emotional effects from exposure to domestic violence.

It is therefore, the intent of the legislature to assure the victims of domestic violence the maximum protection from abuse the law can provide.

It is the intent of the legislature to stress that the primary duty of a law enforcement officer when responding to a domestic violence call is to enforce the laws allegedly violated and to protect the victim.

Further, it is the responsibility of the courts to protect victims of violence that occurs in a family or family-like setting by providing access to both emergent and long-term civil and criminal remedies and sanctions.

To that end, the legislature encourages the training of all police and judicial personnel in the procedures and enforcement of this act, and about the social and psychological context in which domestic violence occurs;

It is further intended that the official response to domestic violence shall communicate the attitude that violent behavior will not be excused or tolerated, ...

Honored guests, there are many ways that you and I can influence how survivors of violence against women are treated and the types of services they receive.

Some examples include lobbying groups to pass legislation like the New Jersey's Domestic Violence Act. Advocate groups and non-profit organizations, such as sororities and NAWJ, must educate the general public as well as public policy makers about:

- a) the nature of problems,
- b) what legislation is needed to address problems,
- c) the funding required providing services.

As an Administrative Law Judge I make a direct and significant difference in the lives of hundreds of women who have been victimized by domestic abuse.

☞ Continues on Page 37

WOMEN IN PRISON - COLORADO

COLORADO JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES AND STAFF COLLECT MORE THAN 700 BOOKS FOR THE STORYBOOK PROJECT!

By Ryan Tamm¹



Law Clerks Ryan Tamm and Jessica Lowery with the books collected at the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center.

Last year, during its inaugural campaign to collect books for children of incarcerated women, the Colorado Chapter of NAWJ gathered 238 children's books. Judge Terry Fox, NAWJ District 12 Director who initiated the effort,² was ecstatic with that result. But if Judge Fox was excited about last year's collection, she must be over the moon about this year's drive. The 2013 edition of the book drive, which is known as the *Storybook Project*, collected almost 800 children's books.

The dramatic increase in donations was due in large part to contributions from three satellite book drives. Last year, the *Storybook Project* had just one donation center, the Colorado Court of Appeals, which at the time was housed in the Denver Post building. This year, three NAWJ members outside of Denver decided to take up their own collections. Magistrate Elizabeth Brodsky spearheaded a collection in Boulder, which amassed over a hundred books. Judge Elizabeth Weishaupl of the 18th Judicial District Court led the drive in Arapahoe County, which collected more than two hundred books. And Judge Julie Huffman of the

Montrose County Court led the effort in her county, collecting 55 books. Other NAWJ members across Colorado also donated books and gift cards to the drive, including Judge Betty Strobel of the 19th Judicial District Court in Greeley. At the Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center in Denver — the new home of the Court of Appeals — judges, justices, court employees, and administrative staff donated 426 books.

The *Storybook Project* aims to offset the psychological damage that a child can suffer when a parent is incarcerated. Children of incarcerated parents often experience serious symptoms of trauma-related stress, including trouble sleeping, difficulty concentrating, and depression.³ They are more likely than their peers to abuse drugs and alcohol, to drop out of school, and to engage in aggressive or antisocial behavior.⁴ Some researchers also suggest that children of incarcerated parents are far more likely than others to end up in prison themselves. But a number of the challenges facing the children of incarcerated parents can be addressed by improving high-quality communication between the child and their incarcerated parent.⁵ The *Storybook Project* aims to foster that communication.

The *Storybook Project* collects books for children ages 0-12. The books are sent to the Denver Women's Correctional Facility, where Adrienne Breznau, the facility's librarian, helps incarcerated women record themselves reading the books to their children. Ms. Breznau then forwards the books to the children, along with the recording and a brief message from mom.

Though this year's book drive was a resounding success, there is still room for the project to grow. More than two million minor children in the United States have a parent behind bars.⁷ In Colorado, roughly twenty thousand children currently have a parent in prison.⁸ Approximately sixty-two percent of incarcerated women in state prisons and fifty-six percent of incarcerated women in federal prisons are mothers of minor children.⁹ Another six percent of women prisoners enter prison pregnant.¹⁰ And, as the U.S. prison population has increased dramatically in recent years, the amount of contact between incarcerated parents and their children has been in persistent decline.¹¹ Programs like the *Storybook Project* are crucial to the effort to protect the mental and emotional well-being of children of incarcerated parents.

The *Storybook Project* is poised to expand again next year. A number of judges and judicial clerks have already expressed interest in starting new satellite book drives to help satisfy the need for books. Readers interested in starting their own book drive or finding a book donation site near them should contact Ryan Tamm in Judge Fox's Chambers, Ryan.Tamm@judicial.state.co.us.

¹Ryan Tamm is a 2013 graduate of the University of Colorado Law School and currently serves as an appellate law clerk to Judge Terry Fox of the Colorado Court of Appeals. Ryan and Law Clerk, Jessica Lowery — a 2012 University of Colorado Law School graduate and NAWJ law clerk member — coordinated the book drive and arranged the delivery of the books to the Denver Women's Correctional Facility.

²Judge Fox is a judge on the Colorado Court of Appeals. She currently serves as Director of District 12 of the NAWJ, which includes Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. She previously served as Colorado Director for the NAWJ.

³Emily Sanders and Rachel Dunifon, Children of Incarcerated Parents, Cornell University College of Human Ecology (2011), available at <http://www.human.cornell.edu/pam/outreach/parenting/research/upload/Children-of-Incarcerated-Parents.pdf>.

⁴Id.

⁵Charlene Wear Simmons, Children of Incarcerated Parents, California Research Bureau, California State Library (2000) available at <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/00/notes/v7n2.pdf>.

⁶Sanders and Dunifon (2011).

⁷The Pew Charitable Trusts, Collateral Costs: Incarceration's Effect on Economic Mobility (2010), available at http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Economic_Mobility/Collateral%20Costs%20FINAL.pdf.

⁸2010 Colorado Quick Facts, Colorado Justice Reform Coalition, http://www.ccjrc.org/pdf/2010_Colorado_Quick_Facts.pdf.

⁹Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Dep't. of Justice, NCJ 222984, Parents in Prison and their Minor Children (revised 2010).

¹⁰Bosley, B., Donner, C., McLean, C., and Toomey-Hale, E, eds., Parenting From Prison: A Resource Guide for Parents Incarcerated in Colorado. Parenting from Prison Guide Committee. Denver, Colorado (2002).

¹¹Incarcerated Parents and their Children: Trends 1991-2007, The Sentencing Project (2009), available at http://www.sentencingproject.org/doc/publications/publications/inc_incarceratedparents.pdf.

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DELAWARE

SISTERS IN SUCCESS

Delaware's First Lady, Carla Markell, returned to present the keynote address for the Second Annual Sisters in Success Conference on Monday May 12, 2014, at Baylor Women's Correctional Institution ("BWCI"). The day-long conference, led by Superior Court Judge Jan R. Jurden, brought together a team of professional women from the local community to offer a series of workshops designed to provide women in BWCI with the tools necessary to make a successful transition back into the community.

This year's theme was centered on Finding Your Voice. Following First Lady Markell's keynote address, the women attended a variety of workshops moderated by various Delaware experts. Available workshops explored issues related to personal growth and health awareness, grief and loss, positive relationships, stress reduction, employment skills, emotional development, and re-entry services. In addition, two former justice involved women shared their experience with the participants on how to make a successful transition back into society after serving a prison sentence. The day closed with a session lead by women in BWCI's residential treatment program, who individually read poems they had authored dedicated to "finding their voice".

The event was sponsored by the Delaware Department of Correction, BWCI, the Delaware Women in the Law Section of the Delaware State Bar Association, Delaware Chapter of National Association of Women Judges and the Delaware Criminal Justice Council.

LOUISIANA

15TH ANNUAL JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR



On Thursday, March 20, 2014, the 15th Annual Job and Resource Fair was held at the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women in St. Gabriel, Louisiana. The Fair is organized by Assistant Warden Connie Moore. The Louisiana Chapter of NAWJ is involved in ongoing prison outreach activities. Chief Justice Bernette Johnson's law clerks, Veronica Collins Sanger and Kandice Doley, participated in the Fair providing informational materials regarding Social Security Disability and Survivors benefits. Veronica Collins Sanger is a certified Social Security Benefits planner.

The Fair was a unique opportunity for employees and resource and service providers to meet over 300 female inmates who are near release to local communities within one week to twelve months of the date of the Fair. All of the women qualify for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) Program, which entitles employers a tax credit on wages paid to each qualified worker. The tax credits may even be higher, depending on the circumstances of the individuals hired. Louisiana Workforce Commission staff was available to explain the WOTC program and the Fidelity Bonding Program offered by the federal government to employers. The Fair was great success and enthusiastically received by all in attendance. Many of the potential employees had education and training in a variety of positions prior to their incarceration. Their experiences range from professional, skilled, and semi skilled. *By Veronica Collins Sanger, Esq.*

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NEW YORK

BEYOND THE BARS HOLIDAY PROJECTS

New York Women in Prison Committee Chair, Judge Cheryl J. Gonzales and Judge Laura Jacobson coordinated the “Beyond the Bars” Holiday Projects in New York City. Judge Gonzales coordinated the collection of gifts and toys for the children and grandchildren of the incarcerated women at Taconic Correctional Facility (TCF). The gift bags for the women included small personal items and toiletries. The toys and gifts for the children included stuffed animals, dolls, books, and educational games. All gift bags, toys and games were picked up by Taconic Correctional Facility staff on December 18, 2013 for a holiday party hosted by the staff at Taconic Correctional Facility.

Judge Laura Jacobson coordinated the assembly of 385 gift bags and toiletries for the incarcerated women. Judge Jacobson hosted a luncheon in her chambers for judges, court officers and court attorneys who volunteered to assemble the gift bags. Judge Jacobson stated that New York City judges were very generous in their donations to the project. The Brooklyn Women’s Bar Association and the Judicial Friends annually support the projects with gift bags and toys for the women, their children and grandchildren.

In Albany, Judges Ann Crowell and Rachel Kretser offered to send a generous donation to Taconic Correctional facility. Judge Kretser coordinated delivery of the donated bags to the Albany County Jail. Judge E. Jeanette Ogden collected and delivered gift bags and toiletries for the women at Albion Correctional Facility.

The gift bags delivered to all of the New York State correctional facilities were filled with donations from NAWJ’s New York State Chapter, which included small personal items such as pens, candy canes, chocolate bars as well as toiletries such as lotion, shampoo, conditioner, clear nail polish, Vaseline, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, wash clothes and socks. Judges also donated movie passes for the children and grandchildren of the women.

WORKSHOPS AT TACONIC CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

On Friday, May 31, 2013, Stephen Myers and Heidi Cain, attorneys for the Legal Aid Society, conducted a Housing Re-Entry Workshop, organized by Judge Cheryl J. Gonzales at Taconic Correctional Facility. The workshop focused on preparation for re-entry, and ways to address housing issues women may encounter with public housing and government subsidized housing upon re-entry into the community. The presenters emphasized the importance of completing applications for the various subsidies and housing developments, and challenging any ineligibility finding by requesting a hearing.

On November 8, 2013, volunteer attorneys Donna Sullivan, Esq. and Edward Hammock, Esq. conducted a workshop on parole issues which was attended by approximately 50 inmates. The workshop focused on preparing for parole, understanding the language of the parole board decisions, and the incarcerated women’s options after the parole board determination. This program was coordinated by New York NAWJ Women in Prison Committee members Judge Cheryl J. Gonzales and Christel Garland, Esq. who also attended the workshop. A second parole workshop at Taconic Correctional Facility took place in May, 2014.

Judge Gonzales also planned a motivational workshop with three formerly incarcerated panelists: Glenn Martin, Fortune Society; Vivian Nixon, City University of New York; and Cheryl Wilkins, Columbia University. It was held in April, 2014 at Taconic Correctional Facility. Vivian Nixon was a guest of NAWJ at the 2009 Annual Conference in Memphis, Tennessee where she participated in the workshop “Education Inside & Out, The Multiple Benefits of Educational Programs”.

Family Court Judges Ann O’Shea and Emily Olshansky are planning a workshop entitled “Maintaining Parental Rights While Incarcerated.” They collaborated with Judge Gonzales. The workshop is tentatively scheduled for June 2014 at Taconic Correctional Facility with volunteer attorneys as presenters.

Taconic Correctional Facility is a medium security women’s prison in Bedford Hills, New York that is operated by the New York Department of Corrections with the capacity to house approximately 400 women.

DATE BOOKS

NAWJ donated 435 date books in December, 2013 to New York State correctional facilities. Letters of thanks were received on behalf of the incarcerated individuals. The date books were received by incarcerated persons at Taconic Correctional Facility, Edgecombe Correctional Facility, and Albion Correctional Facility for Women in New York State.

BARD PRISON INITIATIVE UPDATE

Following the closing of Bayview Correctional Facility in 2013, New York NAWJ Women In Prison members Betty J. Williams and Cheryl J. Gonzales met with Assemblymen Jeffrion L. Aubry, former Chairperson of Committee on Correction and Daniel J. O’Donnell, current Chairperson of Committee on Correction, to garner support for the successful transfer of the Bard Prison Initiative’s (BPI) college program from Bayview to the Taconic Correctional Facility for Women. Twenty-eight students are currently enrolled in the Initiative at the Taconic facility.

At Wilborn Church in Albany, and before dozens of elected officials including New York City Mayor Bill De Blasio, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced plans to restore ‘college-in-prison’ on a broad scale. Highlighting the Bard Initiative’s work, and the accomplishments of two BPI alumni, Governor Andrew Cuomo introduced plans to support ten programs across New York State.

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In a New York Times February 19, 2014 editorial “Governor Cuomo’s Bold Step on Prison Education,” Max Kenner shared: “For years, the National Association of Women Judges has been an energetic advocate of real criminal justice reform, including the restoration of college access in American prisons. In particular, the NAWJ and Judge Betty Williams have been especially engaged in the work of the Bard Prison Initiative at Bard College. From the establishment of Bard’s college programs for incarcerated women to helping locate key voices of support, women judges have played an important role in this sensible, cost-effective, and moral answer to the crisis of mass incarceration. If real reform is going to happen, judges and district attorneys must both be involved. The NAWJ’s work in this area is an example of how, together, judges can bring about real reform.”

Judge Williams, who is co-chair of NAWJ’s Women in Prison Committee, drafted a letter to Governor Andrew Cuomo supporting his plan to restore college-in-prison programs.

The Bard Prison Initiative (BPI), started in 2001, provides higher education opportunities at five New York State Correctional Facilities: Eastern, Elmira, Greenhaven, Taconic and Woodbourne. Begun as a pilot program with 15 students, BPI currently enrolls approximately 200,000 incarcerated men and women in a full time liberal arts curriculum. BPI aims to spread the benefits of a higher education to New York State’s prison population, one of the State’s most isolated communities.

Max Kenner is Executive Director of the Bard Prison Initiative, and Vice President for Institutional Initiatives at Bard College. In 2009, he was a panelist on an NAWJ Annual Conference panel “Education: Inside & Out, The Multiple Benefits of Educational Programs in Prison.”

NEW YORK NAWJ JUDGES SUPPORT DANBURY

In September, 2013, Judges Debra A. James, Ruth Shillingford, Cheryl J. Gonzales, Yvonne Lewis, Marcy Kahn, Betty J. Williams and other New York City judges wrote letters to Senators Charles E. Schumer and Kristen E. Gillibrand in support of the effort to maintain the Federal Correctional Institution for Women in Danbury, Connecticut. (See Counterbalance Winter 2013, “Danbury Prison to Remain — NAWJ Community Joins with Partners, Legislators; Services for Women in Prison to Increase”)

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PENNSYLVANIA

HOLIDAY CHEER AT CAREER WARDROBE



The Women in Prison Committee of the NAWJ Philadelphia sponsored “Holiday Cheer and a Little Giving” on December 12, 2013, at Career Wardrobe, a non-profit agency which provides professional work attire, educational programs and networking tools and opportunities to women participating in various community programs.

Judges brought donations of gently used clothing to Career Wardrobe, in exchange for vouchers which were given to Phoenix, a Residential Reentry Program in Philadelphia. The clothing donations from the judges were thus transformed into services for incarcerated women preparing for reentry into the community.

Career Wardrobe provides one complete clothing ensemble, inclusive of dress/suit, handbag, shoes and jewelry, as well as the opportunity for job skills workshops such as resume writing and interviewing. The agency also hosts networking workshops where community volunteers speak to the women about job opportunities.

The Holiday Cheer event was well attended and the donations were so generous that Career Wardrobe doubled the number of vouchers initially promised. And the environment of holiday cheer and refreshments made for a festive, enjoyable event. A follow-up event was organized for the NAWJ MidAtlantic Regional Meeting on February 22, 2014, where Career Wardrobe made a presentation of its mission and program. By way of a welcome update, it was reported that one of the women from Phoenix who received a voucher from the Holiday Cheer event came into Career Wardrobe for her outfit, attended a jobs skills workshop and, through a networking connection, landed employment with a \$50,000 salary!

Career Wardrobe is a member of The Women’s Alliance in Washington, D.C., which was the founding agency. See www.thewomensalliance.org for locations of agencies in other states which may be interested in working with Women in Prison Committees.

☞ Continued from Page 33

In human services cases, administrative law judges are empowered to order safe placement for women and their children, nutritional meals through food stamps, and proper medical care through Medicaid.

Under New Jersey civil rights laws, women who have been denied the rights to equality in employment and education have been awarded compensation and other forms of relief from illegal discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, race and age.

Whenever traditional values threaten to diminish, undermine or weaken guaranteed human rights, whenever traditional values seek to overthrow or abolish guaranteed human rights, I believe that every person in this room must step forward to stop this wrong.

That first step need not be a big one. Simply put, whenever traditional values seek to trump human rights - just say “no more, no more, no more”.

In closing, I ask each person to say a prayer for those who have their life to domestic violence and a prayer for the survivor who continues on her journey believing life is still good, just different.

Thank You.

Hon. Mumtaz Bari-Brown
New Jersey Administrative Law Judge

This document has been edited. An annotated version may be obtained from Lavinia Cousin at NAWJ. Please call 202.393.0222.

NAWJ Tackles Strengthening New Judges: A Mentor-Mentee Protocol

by Hon. Beverly Winslow Cutler

Our Fall 2013 New Orleans–Annual Conference saw NAWJ concentrating mega efforts on receiving our newest judges. NAWJ now has a Mentor-Mentee Protocol developed by the New Judges Committee and adopted by the NAWJ Board of Directors. Even though NAWJ had been offering mentors to first time attendees at annual conferences for decades, last year the New Judges Committee accepted a charge to do more to integrate new attendees into NAWJ. The committee's aim is to maximize the annual conference experience so that judges new to the conference will want to become actively involved in the organization immediately.

The Protocol now connects mentors and mentees well in advance of the conference, and makes a special effort to match the mentee to a mentor judge who might be most helpful, seeking input from the mentee first. Additionally, the New Judges Committee now personally contacts all first time attendees who do not request a mentor, offering them more information about the program, and urging acceptance of a mentor. The Protocol recognizes that many new members/first time attendees are strong women who would not have attained their positions without significant ability and poise, and who thus might have thought it unnecessary, or a sign of weakness, to sign up for a mentor. The committee is glad to report that the Protocol's efforts have been handsomely rewarded.

Some comments of first time attendees when first contacted:

"I'm looking forward to the conference and meeting you.... I've never felt so wanted."

"I think the mentor program is a wonderful idea—and have mentioned enthusiastically to other colleagues how impressed I am by this helping-hand you extend to first time attendees."

"What a welcome message! You are very kind to offer me a "mentor" and I will be eager to meet whomever you might designate....I expect to encounter many familiar faces in New Orleans—but I am always eager to make new friends and broaden my range of contacts."

"I would enjoy meeting another female judge. My exposure to female judges has mostly been limited [to judges in the same specialty].... I would enjoy meeting someone in another field or specialty."

The New Judges Committee recognizes that showing up knowing no one at a conference of several hundred people can be intimidating, especially for the introverts among us. Even the extroverts may wonder how to effectively navigate the rocks and shoals for maximum benefit. The newly adopted protocol gives suggested actions to both mentors and first time attendees.

These actions include early contact weeks in advance of the conference to go over what to bring and what to expect. And planning suggestion to meet either at the first time attendee meeting held on the first day, or as soon as possible upon arrival if one or both cannot make the meeting.

The first time attendees and mentors in New Orleans included trial judges, administrative law judges, and state supreme and appellate court justices. Nearly all reported having a positive experience, even though some had to switch assignments at the last minute due to travel factors beyond anyone's control. Mentors made sure their mentees had someone with whom to sit for meals and programs, or invited them to come along on their extracurricular events. As one first time attendee said, "...[W]e spent a lot of time together. I am glad that I had a mentor!"

After the mentor and mentee participants were surveyed for ideas to improve the program, the New Judges Committee is working with the San Diego Host Committee to make the program even better this fall.

The New Judges Committee is chaired by Jamoa Moberly. Committee members this past year were Beverly Cutler, Sharon Mettler, Antoinette Leoney, Pammela Lattier, Sheva Sims, Theresa Timli, Daria Zane, Mary Hotard Becnal, Bernadette D'Souza, and Marilyn Paja. Also assisting the committee with drafting the protocol was Jennifer Gee, long time NAWJ member who authored NAWJ's Annual Conference Planning Manual. Sharon Mettler and Beverly Cutler coordinated the mentors and mentees for New Orleans and will do so again for San Diego. They welcome any suggestions from members, and want to especially thank Mary-Kathleen Todd for providing frequent updates of new registrants.

Suggested Mentor Actions

Within two working days of being assigned a Mentee, call or email your Mentee, giving full contact information, arrival date and time, and asking whether your Mentee has other friends in NAWJ and/or going to conference.

Follow-up until you have connected with your Mentee or contact the Mentor Coordinator(s) if you get no response.

Arrange to meet your Mentee at the NAWJ Annual Conference-- either before or, **at the latest**, at the First Time Attendee meeting.

BE at the First Time attendee meeting (Wednesday afternoon)! Introduce your Mentee to your circle of friends.

If an emergency arises preventing you from making the First Time Attendee meeting PLEASE promptly notify the Mentor Coordinator(s).

Determine whether you and your Mentee are attending any of same education programs and, if so, arrange to sit together--especially if your Mentee does not have friends or colleagues with whom to sit. If you are not at the same education program, ask a friend to look out for your Mentee and sit with her.

Share meals--especially if your Mentee does not have friends or colleagues with whom to sit.

Include your Mentee in **non-NAWJ or free time activities**--especially if the Mentee does not have friends or colleagues with whom to spend this time.

Get feedback from your Mentee. Ask your Mentee how she likes the conference and what problems, if any, she is having. Try to resolve problems or bring them to the attention of the Mentor Coordinator(s). The Conference Registration Desk will have cell phone numbers for them.

Suggest ways your Mentee can become involved in NAWJ, such as committees or other programs. Find out why she joined, what inspired her to come to the conference, whether her expectations were met, and whether she would consider coming again.

Add your Mentee to your holiday card mailing list and social media connections. **Stay in touch after the conference.**

☞ Continued from Page 8

American boy killed in the South during the Jim Crow era. The subsequent panel discussion on Implicit Bias as a barrier to access to justice, moderated by Dan Rather, was as scintillating as the play. Justice Ginsburg said was moved to tears by the play and the attention NAWJ has given to the important topic of ensuring equal access to justice for all.

Human Trafficking's Focus on Labor

The conference concluded with a half day training session on the pernicious problem of human trafficking for labor. After Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby introduced Judge Elizabeth Lee, Chair of NAWJ's Subcommittee on Human Trafficking, and Jonathan Mattiello, Executive Director of the State Justice Institute, a longtime supporter of NAWJ's education programs, conferees availed themselves of three terrific panels in which speakers explained the various types of labor trafficking and suggested tools for meeting the challenges trafficking presents for access to justice. In addition to hearing the heart rendering account of a trafficking survivor, an expert panel enlightened attendees with up-to-date statistics and current methods in combatting labor trafficking: Dr. John Martin, Director, Human Trafficking and the State

Courts Collaborative; Scott Santoro, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Jennifer Silberman, Vice President, Corporate Responsibility of Hilton Worldwide; Hilary Axam, Esq., Director of the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, U.S. Justice Department; Hon. Virginia Kendall, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois; Martina Vandenburg, Esq., Founder and President of The Human Trafficking Pro Bono Legal Center; and E. Christopher Johnson, Jr., Reporter, ABA Business Law Section Working Group and member of the ABA Taskforce on Human Trafficking. NAWJ's own Hon. Arline Pacht, NAWJ Subcommittee on Human Trafficking member, and Hon. Ann Breen-Greco, NAWJ Liaison to the ABA Taskforce on Human Trafficking moderated the panels. Hon. Joan Churchill, NAWJ Immediate Past President and Chair of the NAWJ Immigration/Human Trafficking Project Advisory Committee, emphasized in her closing remarks the value of the training and the remarkable work NAWJ and the Department of Homeland Security do in this area.

A special thanks to our conference sponsors listed in District News on page 20.

PROFILES IN STEWARDSHIP: MEET NAWJ'S RESOURCE BOARD

The NAWJ Resource Board is composed of leaders in their field. The members work with NAWJ members and staff to raise judicial awareness about subjects of mutual interest, offer advice regarding education projects, and provide and cultivate crucial professional and financial support for the organization as it works towards its mission.

Over the course of the next three issues, *Counterbalance* will introduce its dynamic members.



KELLY M. DERMODY

Kelly M. Dermody is a managing partner of Lief, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, LLP's San Francisco office and chair of the firm's employment practice group. She specializes in class and collective actions on behalf of plaintiffs in employment and consumer cases. Attorney Dermody is supervising many of the most significant and challenging employment class action

lawsuits in our nation today, including complaints brought by female and minority professionals alleging gender/race discrimination by top Wall Street firms, overtime pay lawsuits against nationally prominent corporations, and ERISA claims that she has tried on behalf of employees and retirees for pension plan abuses. Both Best Lawyers and Super Lawyers have recognized Attorney Dermody as one of the top lawyers in the San Francisco Bay Area and Northern California. California Lawyer magazine awarded her its prestigious California Lawyer Attorney of the Year Award, and in 2011, Attorney Dermody received a Women of Achievement Award from Legal Momentum (formerly NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund). More recently, in 2014, she was selected as Lawyer of the Year for Employment Law.

Attorney Dermody has been a leader in organizations devoted to serving the public interest. She served as President of the Bar Association of San Francisco from 2011 to 2012, and is a member of the governing Council of the ABA Labor & Employment Law Section. She has participated in numerous civic committees, including the Katrina Task Force, the Carver Healthy Environments and Response to Trauma in Schools Steering Committee, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Pride Law Fund, and Equal Rights Advocates.

Attorney Dermody has been a member of the NAWJ's Resource Board since 2005 and served as co-chair from 2009 to 2011. In 2010, she was co-chair of NAWJ's 2010 Annual Conference Friends Committee. She is also a member of NAWJ's Judicial Independence Committee. At the 2012 NAWJ Annual Conference, Attorney Dermody moderated a panel discussion on judicial independence entitled "We Can Do It! Fighting Back to Protect Judicial Independence." Attorney Dermody's commitment to judicial independence is further demonstrated by her active role in organizing the Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project, a program dedicated to educating the public about the importance of an independent judiciary. In 2010, NAWJ honored Attorney Dermody with the Florence K. Murray Award. Attorney Dermody received her B.A., magna cum laude from Harvard University, and her law degree from University of California, Berkeley Law (Boalt Hall).



NICOLE ERB

Nicole Erb is a partner with White & Case LLP in Washington, D.C., where she represents clients in international commercial litigation and government investigations on a wide range of matters, including United States economic sanctions and financial regulations. She provides counsel to large multinational com-

panies and financial institutions in the United States, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. Attorney Erb is chair of the White & Case Global Women's Initiative Committee. In 2012, White & Case received Euromoney Legal Media Group's Europe Women in Business Law Award for Best International Firm for Talent Management for its program for White & Case's women lawyers. Euromoney Legal Media Group also honored White & Case with consecutive Women in Business Law Awards in both 2013 and 2014 for Best International Firm Mentoring Program in Europe and Best International Firm for Talent Management in the Americas. White & Case recently had the honor of being named the most diverse firm in America according to the 2014 American Lawyer's Diversity Scorecard.

Attorney Erb became a member of NAWJ's Resource Board in 2007. In 2013, she co-chaired the Host Committee for NAWJ's Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. She also has co-chaired NAWJ meetings with the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. In 2010, Ms. Erb was instrumental in forming a collaborative relationship between NAWJ, White & Case, and the Washington Middle School for Girls that connects middle school students with legal and judicial leaders as mentors. She has generously opened White & Case's Washington, D.C. office to the students for this program. Attorney Erb received her B.A. from Reed College and her law degree from Columbia Law School.



KAREN G. JOHNSON-MCKEWAN

Karen G. Johnson-McKewan, an Intellectual Property partner in Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP's San Francisco office, is a trial lawyer who concentrates her practice on complex intellectual property and commercial litigation for technology and consumer products companies. Attorney Johnson-McKewan has significant

experience litigating and trying particularly intricate cases where simplifying complex technology issues is invaluable. Her engagements have involved matters in technology, internet, financial, e-commerce, retail, software and gaming industries in a diverse set of courts and multiple arbitral bodies. She served as Orrick's San Francisco Office Leader from 2005 to 2008.

Attorney Johnson-McKewan joined the NAWJ Resource Board in 2005, and served as its co-chair from 2006 to 2009. Among her many accomplishments during that period, Attorney Johnson-McKewan secured Forster-Long, Inc.'s partnership in producing a statistical summary of gender ratios of the judiciary in every state of the country. In 2011, Attorney Johnson-McKewan assumed the responsibilities of co-chair of the Resource Board for a second time and together with Elaine Metlin has played a critical role in moving NAWJ forward. Attorney Johnson-McKewan also serves as vice-chair of NAWJ's California Coordinating Committee for the Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project (IVP). Orrick has been a substantial resource for the IVP. Its generous financial contributions and pro bono work of its attorneys have preserved NAWJ's tax-exempt status and the independence of IVP's intellectual property. Attorney Johnson-McKewan received her B.A. from the University of California, Davis and her law degree from the University of California, Davis School of Law.



ROBERT M. KAUFMAN

Robert M. Kaufman is a partner in the New York office of Proskauer Rose LLP. He specializes in the areas of health and hospital law, the law of not-for-profit corporations, multinational corporate law, and personal representation. Prior to joining Proskauer, he worked in the Department of Justice,

Antitrust Division, followed by several years in the United States Senate as Legislative Assistant to Senator Javits, and as a Senior Economist for the State of New York. Attorney Kaufman has had a major impact on hospital law through his work on the restructuring of New York not-for-profit hospital groups and on the legislative development of the New York hospital reimbursement system. He also spearheaded the first large hospital law department in a New York general practice firm. Attorney Kaufman is the author of various Bar Committee publications and co-editor of the widely acclaimed four-volume Health Care Law Treatise published by Mathew Bender. He is also on the Board of Directors of Legal Momentum, and a Sustaining Member of the New York Women's Bar Association.

Attorney Kaufman became a member of NAWJ in 1994 and has served on NAWJ's Resource Board from its inception. NAWJ recognized his service to the organization by honoring him with the Florence K. Murray Award in 1997. Attorney Kaufman is one of NAWJ's strongest personal financial contributors and almost single-handedly funds NAWJ's International Judges' Scholarship program, which brings judicial officers from around the world to NAWJ's annual conferences. Attorney Kaufman received his B.A. from Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, his M.A. from New York University, and his law degree from Brooklyn Law School.



ELAINE METLIN

Elaine Metlin is a partner in Dickstein Shapiro LLP's Antitrust & Financial Services and White Collar Criminal Defense & Investigations Practices. She focuses her civil practice on complex antitrust litigation involving international cartels, and complex commercial litigation. In her white collar practice, she has conducted internal investigations and defended businesses and individuals who have been investigated by the Department of Justice, Congress, various independent counsels, and other agencies and regulatory bodies. She has advised and defended elected and appointed governmental officials, including members of the Senate and the Cabinet, in connection with numerous high-profile investigations and cases.

Attorney Metlin graduated from the University of Virginia Law School in 1983. She clerked for Judge Susan Black (now on the Eleventh Circuit) and other judges in the U. S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida and then joined Dickstein Shapiro, where she has practiced for nearly 30 years. Attorney Metlin has held numerous influential positions within the firm. She was the second woman to serve on the firm's Executive and Compensation Advisory Committees. In 2006, she was named the head of Dickstein Shapiro's Women's Leadership Initiative, which focuses on leadership positions and business development opportunities for the firm's women attorneys.

Attorney Metlin is also a founding member of the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the Women's Leadership and Mentoring Alliance, a nonprofit whose mission is to cultivate networking and mentoring opportunities for women and to encourage experienced women professionals to build alliances with younger women professionals to develop their leadership skills. In 2010, she was elected to the board of the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, where she now serves as a trustee. She is a member of many other legal organizations

including the ABA, the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, and the Edward Bennett Williams Inn of Court. Attorney Metlin also co-chaired the Litigation Committee of the ABA International Section.

In 2006, Attorney Metlin became a member of the NAWJ Resource Board and was appointed co-chair in 2009, a position she still holds. She also co-chaired the host committee for both the 2010 and 2013 NAWJ Midyear Meeting and Leadership Conferences in Washington, DC. Attorney Metlin and her firm have been staunch and generous supporters of NAWJ. In recognition of her commitment to advancing women in the legal profession, she was honored by NAWJ with the Florence K. Murray Award in 2011. She states that, "Dickstein Shapiro is a proud supporter of NAWJ and its inspiring and wide-ranging efforts to provide access to justice for all. By strengthening the relationship between the bench and the bar, NAWJ's Resource Board firms now have increased opportunities to work alongside and engage with NAWJ members. These relationships are appreciated, mutually beneficial, and critical to the long-term financial sustainability of NAWJ."



HARRIET WESIG

Harriet Wesig is an accomplished marketing professional with over 11 years of business to business experience. She joined LexisNexis in 2003, and currently leads the marketing team in the State and Local Government segment, aligning marketing strategy to business goals resulting in efficient, results-driven campaigns that help sales professionals effectively and efficiently achieve their goals. Her strengths are in utilizing a unique formula to demonstrate the tangible value marketing can bring to an organization. She successfully builds meaningful customer relationships with the ultimate objective of enhancing their overall goals and those of the businesses they serve.

LexisNexis is a charter member of the Resource Board and Attorney Wesig has been a member of the Resource Board since 2012. LexisNexis is a key sponsor of NAWJ's Color of Justice program which was created by NAWJ Past President Brenda Stith Loftin and has motivated young girls and women to be better students, better citizens and, most importantly, has inspired them to become lawyers and judges. The Color of Justice program was launched in August of 2001 in St. Louis, Missouri at the Washington University School of Law. Since that time, LexisNexis has provided the resources to enable over 2,000 students in 25 states to attend a Color of Justice program.

Attorney Wesig and LexisNexis have continued to demonstrate its support for NAWJ by providing resources to the Informed Voters/Fair Judges Project (IVP). This spring LexisNexis assisted in launching the nationwide virtual premier of "Fair and Free," an Emmy award winning video featuring retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. IVP seeks to raise awareness about the importance of an independent judiciary free of the influence of special interest groups. Attorney Wesig has identified a dedicated LexisNexis resource for each of the project's target states; this group works with the project's state coordinating committee chairs and members to produce webinars and plan effective distribution of activities and messages. NAWJ, IVP and their partners are grateful for the support provided by Attorney Wesig and LexisNexis. Attorney Wesig earned her law degree from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio and is a member of the Ohio Bar.

Resource Board Mission Statement

The Resource Board of the National Association of Women Judges is committed to supporting NAWJ both financially and programmatically, for the purposes of (a) assuring that NAWJ has sufficient economic and human resources to execute its strategic plan; (b) developing bonds of mutual support and respect between and among Resource Board members and NAWJ members; and (c) promoting the professional advancement and elevating the standing of women from both the bench and bar.

RESOURCE BOARD

The NAWJ Resource Board are leaders in their field. Resource Board members work with NAWJ members and staff to raise judicial awareness about subjects of mutual interest, offer advice regarding education projects, and provide and cultivate crucial professional and financial support for the organization as it works towards its mission.

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The ABA meets twice a year (in February and August) with an annual spring Law Day celebration in D.C. to allow contact with government officials, including your representatives in Congress. The 2014 Annual Meeting was held in Boston from August 7-9; the Judicial Division program was filled with panel discussions helpful to our work, and the social events were, as always, memorable. A number of our members were honored.

In the meantime, call me with any questions and I will find the answers for you, I promise!

Norma L. Shapiro,

NAWJ Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates

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CORRECTION

In the Winter, 2013 issue of *Counterbalance*, the biographical footnote for author Karen P. Simmons (Giving Children a Voice in Family Court, page 12) was omitted. It is printed below:

Karen P. Simmons is the Executive Director of the Children's Law Center (CLCNY) www.clcny.org. CLCNY is a not for profit law firm that represents children on custody, visitation, guardianship, family offense, paternity and connected child protective cases in the Family Court and the Integrated Domestic Violence Parts of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens and Staten Island. Karen is also an Adjunct Professor at Brooklyn Law School. Karen was formerly the Attorney in Charge of the Kings and Richmond County offices of the Legal Aid Society Juvenile Rights Practice. In addition to her law degree, Karen has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from City University (John Jay College) and her Bachelor's Degree from Duke University. Developing staff with a framework for addressing trauma that can occur while working with children and families is a critical part of her work. Karen may be reached at ksimmons@clcny.org.

SAN DIEGO FRIENDS COMMITTEE CHAIRS JERILYN MALANA, INDIA JEWELL FORTIFY NAWJ'S 36TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 15-19, 2014



(Photo left to right: India Jewell, Co-Chair NAWJ Annual Conference Friends Committee; Hon. Karen Crawford, U.S. Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California; Hon. Robert Longstrath, NAWJ member and Conference CLE Committee Chair; Hon. Joan Churchill, NAWJ President and guest of honor; 2014 Annual Conference Co-Chairs Judge Margie G. Woods and Judge Tamila E. Ipema; Jon. James Atkins, NAWJ member and Conference Security Committee member; and Jerlyni Malana, Co-Chair NAWJ Annual Conference Friends Committee.)

Since the San Diego 2014 Annual Conference Planning Committee held a kickoff reception on June 26, 2013, conference Friends Committee Chairs Jerilyn Malana, Esq. (Littler Mendelson, PC) and India Jewell (Sony Electronics Inc.) have not stopped working to ensure the success of the 36th Annual Conference.

Conference Sponsors as of August 1:

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Also with assistance from the Education Chairs, NAWJ is grateful for the support of the following session sponsors: **Education Program Sponsors:** National Judicial Education Program, National Judicial College, State Bar of California Counsel on Access & Fairness, State Justice Institute, and Western Justice Center.

Visit www.nawj.org/annual_2014.asp for a complete list of contributors and programs.

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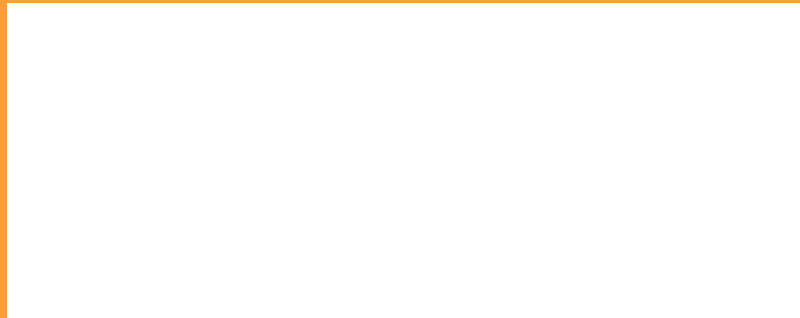
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