

ANNUAL REPORTS

Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees

2008-2009

Annual Reports of Local Gender Bias and
Gender Fairness Committees

2008-2009

Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

Fourth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Fifth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Sixth Judicial District Committee Gender Fairness Committee

Seventh Judicial District Committee Gender Fairness Committee

Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the
Courts

Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee

NYC Family Court Justice on Wheels

Women in the Courts/Gender Fairness Committee of Civil Court,
County of Queens

Gender Fairness Committee of the Criminal Court of the City of New York

Gender Bias Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Criminal Term

Gender Bias Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Term

Gender Fairness Committee of the Twelfth Judicial District

Queens County, Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

Supreme Court, Kings County Gender Fairness Committee

Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee Third District Gender Fairness Committee

Name and Title of Chair

Hon. Linda C. Griffin, Rensselaer Co. Family Court v 1DV

No. Members 17 No. of Meetings 5 Average Attendance 8 Use of Video Conferencing? not yet

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.) Judges (5);
Court personnel (6); Attorneys (5); advocates (1)

(For reports on activities, please include co-sponsors, size of the attendance, and copies of any press.)

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008 Committee meeting with a
presentation by Albany Co. DA David Soares on his office's innovations in
the prosecution of domestic crimes. Guests included a no. of students & faculty
from Albany Law School; info distributed in ets & at meeting re: cell
phone donation for DV victims.
Activities for Women's History Month 2009 Collaboration w/ 2 local agencies on clothing drives
Committee presentation by 4WCA Ex. Dir. Sherry Rounds on services
provided to women & children and the history of the Y. Program
emphasized housing & case work services for DV victims & women
returning to the community after incarceration or long-term treatment.
Other Activities in the Past Year

4/08 Presentation by Alison Coleman, Director of Prism Families of NY
on the needs of inmate families and the services provided by
her organiz. during and after incarceration

12/08 Presentation by Unity House (DV Advocacy Agency) and
Michael Hudson-Humane Soc. on their new Safe Haven program, providing
shelter to DV victims' pets and the link between animal abuse,
child abuse and domestic violence.

1/09 Presentation on Collaborative Divorce by a local
attorney and mental health professional

NOTE: All Committee meetings are open and publicized within the
Mounts. Most meetings include visitors.



What are your plans for next year? As I have just (April 1st) returned, a new chair will lead the planning process. One idea under discussion is a presentation on a new program of the Capital District Women Bar Assoc. Legal Project on the needs of military families.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do think are important this year?

the impact of the financial climate on women and families.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Do you see unmet training needs?

I see a need for more personnel to assist in petition preparation and to provide linkage to services in the community.

For Judicial Districts outside NYC, what are the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

Continued assistance with program ideas. The meeting in NYC for chairs from outside the City was very helpful.

Please return this form by April 3, 2009, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts,
25 Beaver St, Rm 878, New York, NY 10004, 212-428-2793 (Fax) jgoodman@Courts.state.ny.us

**The Gender Fairness Committee
of the Third Judicial District presents**

*A Conversation With
Alison Coleman*

Director of Prison Families of New York, Inc.

Thursday, April 10th 2:00 p.m.
Rensselaer County Family Court Center
1504 Fifth Avenue, Troy, New York

Prison Families of New York, Inc. is a not-for-profit agency which provides confidential, statewide information and services to prison families, formerly incarcerated people, educators, ministries, agencies and local, regional and state government. Among other services, they work with and support prisoners' children.



Fourth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Hon. Polly A. Hoyer

Fulton County Office Building, Room 216
223 West Main Street
Johnstown, NY 12095
518-736-5691



WOMEN IN THE COURT'S COMMITTEE REPORT 2008-2009

Name of the Committee: Fourth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Name and Title of Chair: Polly A. Hoye, Fulton County Judge & Surrogate

No. Members: 21 **No. Of Meetings:** 0 **Average Attendance:** N/A

Use of Video Conferencing? No.

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.) 14 Judges, 1 Court Attorney, 6 Attorneys at large.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008

Clinton County: "Day of Remembrance", October 7, 2008; "Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day", October 8, 2008; "DV 101", presentation to State University of NY Women's Studies Classes; "In Her Shoes", October 22, 2008; "Teen Dating Violence/Healthy Relationships", October 23-30, 2008, presentations to Stafford Middle School Health classes.

Franklin County: "A Path to a New Horizon" (rally in the park), October 2, 2008; "Take Back the Night", October 10, 2008; "Domestic Violence Training for Magistrates, October 29, 2008..

Fulton County: "10th Annual Domestic Violence Fall Festival", October 4, 2008 (see attached newspaper article); "Sexual Harassment Training for Family Counseling Agency Staff, DV & Pet Abuse, the Link", October 7, 2008; "Shower" for DV Shelter, October 14, 2008; "DV Presentations at Johnstown High School", October 16, 2008; "Domestic Violence Presentation to Fulton County Magistrates", October 18, 2008; Domestic Violence Task Force Quarterly Meeting, October 21, 2008 (see attached flyer).

Hamilton County: "How To Make Domestic Violence Cases Less Frustrating" (free training for Legal & Law Enforcement Personnel), October 8, 2008 (see attached flyer & agenda).

St. Lawrence County: "Stop the Violence" 8K Walk/Run, October 5, 2008; Annual Domestic Violence Prevention Recognition Dinner, October 22, 2008.



Activities for Women's History Month 2009

None known.

Other Activities in the Past Year

Clinton County: "In Her Shoes" presentation to SUNY Social Work Association, September 22, 2008; Teen Dating Violence Presentations (at Plattsburgh High School & Health Classes), November 12-14, 17-18, 2008; "Ethics for Domestic Violence Practitioners" (Presentation to practicing attorneys on Domestic Violence Awareness & Services), November 21, 2008 (see attached flyer); "Teen Dating Violence & Healthy Relationships", presentation to Peru High School health classes, March 10-11, 2008; "Domestic Violence Academy Training for Police Officers, March 25, 27, April 2 & April 10, 2008 (see attached flyer); "In Her Shoes" presentation to Families in Contemporary America class at SUNY Plattsburgh, April 15, 2008; "Take Back the Night", SUNY Plattsburgh, April 18, 2008; "Effects of Domestic Violence on Children", presentation to Morrisville Elementary School teachers, April 23, 2008;

Fulton County: Teen Dating Violence, presentations at Johnstown High School, April 23, 2008.

Montgomery County: "Teen Dating Violence" (presentation at Canajoharie High School, March 10, 2008; "Dating Violence & Domestic Violence Services (Presentation to St. Mary's Hospital Addiction Services), June 24, 2008.

St, Lawrence County: "'Community Education Day" (at St. Lawrence University), April 22, 2008 (see attached article); "Mothers' Day Fun Run/Walk (fundraiser for Renewal House), May 15, 2008 (see attached article).

What are your plans for Next Year?

We are continuing to expand IDV Court to more local courts and to accept a broader variety of cases in all counties in the district. There is more of an effort to support and work with programs targeted at teenagers and teen dating violence.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important this year?



With more legislative emphasis on same sex marriage legislation and civil unions, and more same sex couples involved in litigation related to custody/property issues, there is a need to address related concerns in the courts. Court personnel and judges would benefit from training related to sensitivity training in dealing with these litigants and the legal issues related to same sex unions or marriages in other jurisdictions that impact legal cases in New York.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women?

There is a need for child care for women who currently have to bring their children to court with them. Many with school-age children have to be home in the afternoon to care for their children after school.

An expansion of agencies providing supervised visitation in situations where there is a stay away orders of protection in favor of the mother.

Do you see unmet training needs?

No unmet training needs except as set forth above.

What do you see as the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

The lack of child care for women litigants, as set forth above. Rural counties are not able to provide child care centers to assist litigants while their cases are being heard.

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

Our district's committee needs reorganization. This is a district issue for the chair to take up with the district administrative office.

Respectfully submitted,

**Polly A. Hoyer
Fourth Judicial District Chair**

Fall Festival

At right: Elizabeth Orlando, 7, her brother Nicholas, 5, and sister, Emma, 2, work with their mother Michelle to decorate paper pumpkins at the Domestic Violence Program's Fall Festival at Trail Station Park in Gloversville Saturday.



Photos by Richard Nilsen The Leader-Herald



Lu Ann Martin of the Family Counseling Center barbecues burgers and hot dogs at the festival.



Joan Alley and Karen Pratt make cotton candy at the event.



Josh Wright, 5, paints a pumpkin purple at the festival.

Event organizers celebrate 10th anniversary

By RICHARD NILSEN
The Leader-Herald

GLOVERSVILLE — Fun came in all sizes, shapes, smells, colors and sounds at the 10th Annual Domestic Violence Fall Festival at Trail Station Park Saturday.

Domestic Violence Program Director Linda Horan said the festival afforded very little funding for the program, but did much to raise community awareness. She said it was part of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month to bring attention to domestic violence as a problem in society. But it's also an opportunity for the community to have a good time.

"It's mostly for fun and to remind people we are there to help," Horan said.

CU
View additional photos
and order prints online at
cu.leaderherald.com

She said the program services about 300 clients per year.

Mariah Olsen was trying her luck breaking balloons at a dart game at the festival. Prizes were handed out whether the dart player was on target or not, however.

"I like this game a lot," Olsen said.

Horan said attendance at the festival was without charge and with food, gifts and

prizes donated, even if someone didn't have the money for a hamburger or cotton candy, they wouldn't go hungry.

Michelle Orlando of Johnstown was there to volunteer as a helper with the bounce house with her three children Elizabeth, 7, Nicholas, 5, and Emma, 2. She was helping her children decorate paper pumpkins.

"We came early to play," Orlando said.

Joan Alley and Kern Pratt were working the cotton candy machine and stuffing the gooey concoction into bags to hand out.

"It sticks to everything," Pratt said with a laugh.

Lu Ann Martin was working the hamburger.
DOMESTIC — On Page 2A

Domestic violence awareness fair celebrates first decade

Continued from Page 1A
er and hot dog grill. She suggested trying one of the hot dog shaped cheeseburgers as something different.

On a more serious note, New York State Trooper Rose Clark and Gloversville Police Patrolman Tony Priamo were talking to children and parents about bicycle safety, helmets, child seats and child I.D. kits.

"We've done over a dozen I.D. kits already," Priamo said after the festival was only two-hours old. "I expect to be here for the duration until 4 p.m."

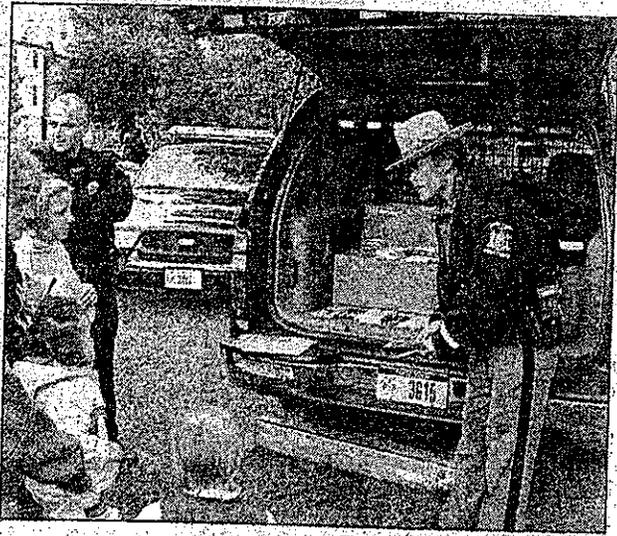
Priamo said it was a nice change from patrol duty.

Clark said she was from the Fonda barracks and also enjoyed talking with children about bicycle safety and to parents about proper child restraints.

"Early education and prevention starts with children," Horan said. "This event gives volunteers a chance to help."

She said the community will recognize faces from various service providers and children would see that police were there to help in a difficult situation.

Horan said the Domestic Violence Program provides free and confidential services to all



The Leader-Herald/Richard Nilsen
Gloversville Patrolman Tony Priamo and New York State Trooper Rose Clark of the Fonda barracks talk about bicycle safety and help parents with identification kits at the Domestic Violence Program's Fall Festival at Trail Station Park in Gloversville Saturday.

crime victims with a special emphasis on survivors of domestic violence. The goal of the department is to empower survivors, assist them in regaining control of their lives, and ultimately move toward healing.

Among its programs are: 24-Hour Crisis Hotline, Safe Shelter, Advocacy, Transportation, Supportive Counseling, Support Group, Community Education and Outreach, and the Fulton County Domestic Violence Task Force.
Chairwoman Christina Akey

of T.H.E. Connection (Theology, Health, Education) as they relate to domestic violence, said her committee worked to increase awareness and help with prevention programs with domestic violence.

She said she worked with other programs in the county as well and felt coordination of efforts was helpful to all.

For more information, call 725-4310.

Richard Nilsen is a general assignment reporter and can be reached at ga@leaderherald.com



Photo submitted

Representatives of several area women's organizations are shown earlier this month at a "shower" for the Family Counseling Center's domestic violence shelter. From left are Jo-Ann Clear, Linda Horan, Linda Hammond, Helen Martin, Sandy Maceyka and Karen Insogna.

Groups outfit domestic violence shelter

GLOVERSVILLE — More than 60 women joined at the YWCA of the Adirondack Foothills earlier this month to "shower" the Family Counseling Center Domestic Violence Shelter.

Using a wish list prepared by the shelter staff, the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium's member organizations volunteered to outfit various rooms in the shelter, a news release said.

Items for the five bedrooms in blue, pink, yellow, green and purple were presented by the YWCA, Soroptimist International of Fulton County, Women Democrats, the American Association of University Women and the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Hometown Association. Storage containers were filled with sheets, pillowcases, towels, mattress pads and bedspreads.

For the baby room, there was a new crib

from the consortium, a mattress from private donors, and a pack-n-play as well as crib blankets, a baby walker and a variety of baby necessities from the Business and Professional Women of Fulton, Montgomery and Hamilton Counties.

The Insurance Women of Fulton County supplied the kitchen with toasters, griddles, cooking utensils, flashlights with batteries and numerous other kitchen items. The Fulton County Republican Women provided a vacuum cleaner, and the staff of the Fulton and Montgomery County Prevention Council presented a basket of kitchen and bath necessities. The Foothills United Methodist Church Women added to the baby items with baby clothes, diapers and a variety of baby sundries.

Women from the community added to the gifts given by the organizations to include a

kitchen basket, stuffed animals and a floral centerpiece.

Carol Cownie presented a short video titled "An Empty Place at the Table." The video was produced by the Women's Resource Center and depicts the effect on families when domestic abuse has resulted in the death of a victim. The YWCA set an "empty" place in memory of victims in Fulton County.

Linda Horan, director of the Domestic Violence Program for the Family Counseling Center, spoke about the services the program offers to victims, including advocacy services, counseling, public awareness and the shelter program.

The shower was presented by the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium and co-chaired by Carol Cownie and Jo-Ann Clear.



Photo submitted

Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium members Patricia Bender, Sandra Maceyka, Jo-Ann Clear and Helen Martin look over items for their upcoming shower for the Family Counseling Center's Domestic Violence Shelter. The event will take place on Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the YWCA in Gloversville as part of the YWCA's Week Without Violence initiative.

Shower to benefit local shelter

GLOVERSVILLE — In conjunction with the YWCA Week Without Violence initiative, the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium is planning to host a shower for the Family Counseling Center's Domestic Violence Shelter on Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the YWCA of the Adirondack Foothills.

The program features Linda Horan of the Family Counseling Center, who will give a short presentation on domestic violence issues in Fulton County, a news release said.

The video, "Empty Place at the Table," from the Women's Resource Center in Scranton, Pa., will also be shown. Refreshments will be served. The program is free and open to the public.

Each organization in the consortium is choosing items from the shelter's wish list to donate for the shower and will also be providing deserts for the event, the news release said.

To date, the local branch of the American Association of

University Women, the Business and Professional Women of Fulton, Montgomery and Hamilton Counties, Women Democrats, the Fulton County Women's Republican Club, Insurance Women of Fulton County, the YWCA, the ECSWC Hometown Association, HFM Prevention Council staff and the Soroptimists will be participating in this community outreach undertaking, the news release said.

The Family Counseling Center wish list includes items such as towels and face clothes, sheets and pillowcases, bedspreads and pillow covers, plastic mattress covers, a laundry hamper and a radio alarm clock to outfit bedrooms in the shelter.

Each group participating chose a color bedroom for which to coordinate their purchased items.

Other items requested for the shelter include a crib, eight sets of children's dinner ware and plastic glasses, a sandbox with sand, small kitchen appliances such as two four-slice

toasters, two electric griddles, as well as cooking utensils, two flashlights with batteries, dishcloths and towels, and cookie baking pans, the news release said.

In addition, gas cards, telephone cards, a vacuum cleaner, a dust buster, lawn chairs and table and Wii with games would be appreciated by the shelter, the news release said.

Any woman or women's organization interested in participating in the shower is invited to join in this community activity, the news release said.

To ensure sufficient seating and refreshments, reservations are required by Thursday.

For additional information regarding the shower for the Domestic Violence Shelter or the Elizabeth Cady Stanton Women's Consortium, contact Helen Martin at 762-7638, Jo-Ann Clear at 725-7791 or Carol Cownie at 883-8099.

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Fall Festival 12-4 Rail Trail Park Gloversville
5	6	7 Sexual Harassment training for FCC Staff DV and Pet Abuse- The Link-training	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Presentation at YWCA at 6:30pm DV shelter community shower	15	16 Johnstown High School-DV presenta- tion 4 classes	17 Domestic Violence Programs Regional Meeting at FCC 1-3	18 DV presentation Magistrates Monthly meeting 6 pm-White Holland
19	20	21 Domestic Violence Quarterly Task force meeting Johnstown Moose	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Free Training for Legal and Law Enforcement Personnel

Presenter: Bob Passonno (Bio attached)

Date: October 8th, 2008

Time: 10:30 am to 3:00 pm—Lunch included

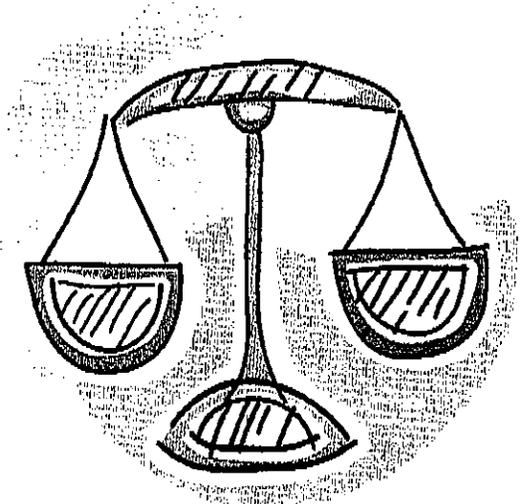
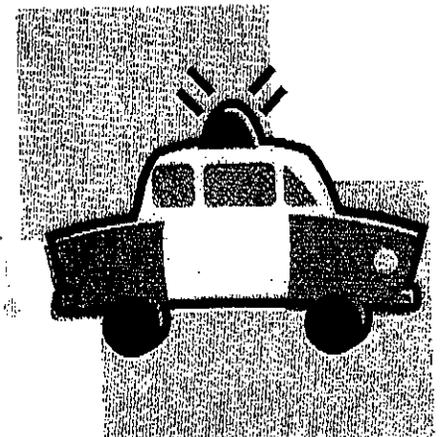
Place: The Hedges in Blue Mtn. Lake, NY

RSVP: By October 3rd, 2008 to Gail Carmichael

or Jackie Fish at 648-6131

Please join us for this 3 hour refresher course titled ‘How to Make Domestic Violence Cases Less Frustrating’

Brought to you by the Hamilton County Department of Social Services



PO Box 725
White Birch Lane
Indian Lake, NY 12842
Phone: 518-648-6131
Fax: 518-648-5257

October 29, 2008

4:30—5:00 PM Registration

5:00—5:45 PM **Michael Hybicki**, MS, LPC, ComLinks Family Therapist,
"Psychological Effects of Domestic Violence"

5:45—6:00 PM Discussion

6:00—7:00 PM Dinner:

7:00—7:30 PM **Steven Mulvana**, BS, CASAC, St. Joseph's Rehabilitation
Center, Franklin County Jail Substance Abuse Coordinator

Kathy Davey, AAS, BA, Franklin County Violence
Intervention Program Coordinator, Franklin County
Probation Dept., "Creating a Process of Change for
Men who Batter"

7:30—8:00 PM **Mose A. Herne**, DS/abd, MPH, MS, Director of Franklin
County Public Health Services, "Cultural Competency
as it Pertains to Domestic Violence in the Native
American Community"

NOVEMBER 21, 2008..CLINTON COUNTY GOVT. CENTER..PLATTSBURGH, NY
 Rural Law Center of New York, Inc. Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc.

ETHICS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PRACTITIONERS

Get 3 Ethics Credits in your own backyard

The Rural Law Center of New York, Inc., as an accredited CLE provider, joins with the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc. to bring a credit-bearing CLE course to this region. **This half-day CLE program will earn you a total of 3.0 credit hours in ethics.** Local judges and recognized experts in the field will present valuable information and excellent materials.

The Rural Law Center of New York, Inc. has been certified by the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board as an Accredited Provider of continuing legal education in the State of New York (March 11, 2008 through March 10, 2011). This course may be used for New York CLE Credit consisting of 3.0 hrs. in ethics. **THIS SEMINAR QUALIFIES AS A TRANSITIONAL COURSE, SUITABLE FOR ALL ATTORNEYS, INCLUDING NEWLY ADMITTED ATTORNEYS.**

PROGRAM AGENDA

Registration	8:30-9:00 a.m.
Local Domestic Violence Providers	9:00-9:40 a.m.
Ethics Update/Overview	9:40-10:30 a.m.
Break/Refreshments	10:30-10:40 a.m.
Ethical Issues from the Criminal Law Side	10:40-11:05 a.m.
Ethical Issues from the Civil Law Side	11:05-11:30 p.m.
Ethical Issues from the Bench Side	11:30-12:10 p.m.

The Rural Law Center of New York, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization funded primarily by the IOLA (Interest on Lawyer Accounts) Fund of the State of New York.

This project is supported by Grant No. 2005-WL-AX-0026 awarded by the Office on Domestic Violence Against Women, US Dept. of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions and recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily reflect the views of the Dept. of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

Domestic Violence Academy Training for Police Officers

March 25, 2007, 1-5 PM (4 hours)

Understanding the Issues

- Faces of Fear
- What are we talking about?
- Historical context
- Power & Control
- Batterer's Toolbox

March 27, 2008, 1-5 PM (4 hours)

So, I want to do this job?

- Identifying Tactics of Abuse
- What is my responsibility?
- Chargeable Offenses & Arrest Decisions
- Assessing Danger Levels - Officer Safety
- Who is the primary aggressor?
- Asking for help from advocates, other agencies,
& supervisors

April 2, 2008, 1-5 PM (4 hours)

Do I believe what I see?

- What evidence for what charges?
- NYS & Federal Laws – What I am promising to uphold?
- The NYS Domestic Incident Report

April 10, 2008, 1-5 PM (4 hours)

Extremely serious events: Strangulation & Stalking
On the job requirements

Fifth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Hon. Deborah Karalunas

Supreme Court Justice
Onondaga County Court
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202
315-428-3244



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee: Fifth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts

Name and Title of Chair: Hon. Deborah H. Karalunas, Supreme Court Justice

Members – would you attach a list of your members? List attached.

Dates of Meetings: None

Average Attendance: N/A.

Do you use of Video Conferencing? No.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008: None.

Activities for Women's History Month 2009: None.

Other Activities in the Past Year: Meeting with Mid-York Women's Bar Association to discuss discrimination complaints.

What are your plans for next year? None yet planned.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important this year? Modification of child support due to recession. Custody and visitation arising from increase in number of former stay-at-home care givers who are now working outside the home.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? No. **Do you see unmet training needs?** No.

What do you see as the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court? Lack of sufficient financial resources to provide mental health, drug treatment and community services to JDs and PINS. Lack of funding for placement of JDs and PINS outside the home. Lack of facilities and services for supervised visitation arising out of regular custody and visitation disputes.

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts? Efforts to obtain funding for the services identified above.

Please return this form by **April 3, 2009**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts,
25 Beaver St., Rm 878, New York, NY 10004, 212-428-2793 (Fax)
jgoodman@Courts.state.ny.us

Sixth Judicial District Committee Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann

Binghamton City Court
Fifth Floor, City Hall
Binghamton, NY 13901
607-772-7006

Hon. Christopher Esworthy

Commissioner of Jurors
Broome County Courthouse
P.O. Box 1706
Binghamton, NY 13902
607-778-2159



MARY ANNE LEHMANN
WILLIAM C. PELELLA
DANIEL L. SEIDEN
CITY COURT JUDGES



CATHERINE R. MALONEY
CHIEF CLERK
SHERRY L. BAKER
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

BINGHAMTON CITY COURT
GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA, 38 HAWLEY STREET
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13901
TELEPHONE 607-772-7006
FAX 607-772-7041

April 21, 2009

Honorable Betty Weinberg-Ellerin, Chair
New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004

Re: Local Committee Report 2008-2009
Gender Fairness Committee, 6th Judicial District

Dear Judge Ellerin:

I submit the following report on behalf of the Gender Fairness Committee for the 6th Judicial District.

Chair: Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann
Binghamton City Court
Fifth Floor, City Hall
Binghamton, New York 13901
(607) 772-7006
(607) 772-7041 (fax)

Dep. Chair: Christopher Esworthy
Commissioner of Jurors
Broome County Courthouse
P.O. Box 1766
Binghamton, New York 13902-1766
(607) 778-2159

The following are members of the committee:

Hon. Michael V. Cocomma, Administrative Judge
Sixth Judicial District Administrative Office
State Office Building, Suite 1501
44 Hawley Street
Binghamton, New York 13901-4466

Hon. Brian D. Burns
 County Court Chambers
 Otsego County Office Building
 197 Main Street
 Cooperstown, New York 13326
 (607) 547-4358

Hon. Dennis K. McDermott
 Madison county Courthouse
 North Court Street
 Wampsville, New York 13163
 (315) 366-2360

Kathryn Grant Madigan, Esq.
 Levene, Gouldin & Thompson
 P.O. Box F-1706
 Binghamton, New York 13902
 (607) 763-9200

Emy L. Franz, Esq.
 Tioga Family Court Support Magistrate
 P.O. Box 10
 Owego, New York 13827
 (607) 687-0467

Gloria Chandler
 Chief Clerk III/Commissioner of Jurors
 Otsego Supreme & County
 197 Main Street
 Cooperstown, New York 13326
 (607) 547-4364

Angela Jones
 Senior Court Office Assistant
 Norwich City Court
 45 South Broad Street
 Norwich, New York 13815
 (607) 334-1224

The following is a list of Advisory Panel members:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Place of Employment</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Aaron R. Alweis, Court Reporter	Broome County Clerk's,	(607) 778-2409,	AALWeis @courts.state.ny.us

Rita Connerton Judge	Broome County Family Ct.	(607) 778-2156	rconnert@courts.state.ny.us
Sandra Garufy, Esq. Law Clerk	Broome County Ct.	(607) 77-2431	Sgarufy@courts.state.ny.us
Martha Lyons, Esq.	Private Practioner	(607) 723-9404	Malvonseesq@hotmail.com
Jane Sbarra Secretary	Broome County Family Ct. Hon. Rita Connerton	(607) 778-6074	Jsbarra@courts.state.ny.us
Debbi Singer Dep. Chief Clerk	Broome County Family Ct.	(607) 778-2040	Dsinger@courts.state.ny.us
Elaine Stuart	Binghamton City Ct.	(607) 772-7006	Estuart@courts.state.ny.us
Dorothy Condon	Director of Training & Dev. Wyoming Conference Childrens Home	(607) 772-6904	Dcondon@chowc.org

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2009 at 3:00p.m. in Binghamton, New York at the State Office Building, we anticipate that we will be using video conferencing to include Judge McDermott from Wampsville. This meeting will chart our plans for next year.

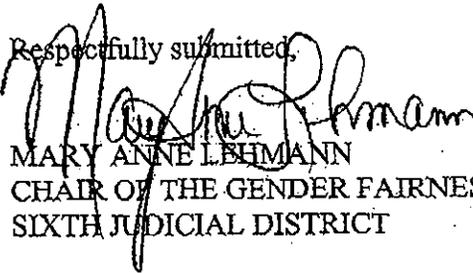
Our activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month are attached. We did not engage in other activities this past year.

We continue to see progress in terms of women on the bench, as judges and hearing officers. As the economy continues to be shaky we anticipate that this will adversely affect female litigants more than male litigants.

Our most pressing unmet need in the Sixth Judicial District involve the proper handling of cases involving litigants with mental illness and a great deal of training will be needed to address this issue as resources for outpatient treatment shrink. This however does not seem to be gender related and affects men and women equally.

The most pressing unmet need in Family Court is due to a lack of Judicial resources. We simply need more Judges for Family Court.

Respectfully submitted,


MARY ANNE LEHMANN
CHAIR OF THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

MARY ANNE LEHMANN
WILLIAM C. PELELLA
DANIEL L. SEIDEN
CITY COURT JUDGES



CATHERINE R. MALONEY
CHIEF CLERK
SHERRY L. BAKER
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

BINGHAMTON CITY COURT
GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA, 38 HAWLEY STREET
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13901
TELEPHONE 607-772-7006
FAX 607-772-7041

November 17, 2008

Honorable Betty Wienburg-Ellerin, Chair
New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004

Re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Sixth Judicial District Annual Report

Dear Judge Ellerin:

The following is the Sixth Judicial District's Annual Report regarding activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October 2008. We had an extremely successful and active year this year;

1. Our local shelter, the SOS Shelter held an annual breakfast commemorating Domestic Violence Awareness Month on Friday, October 3, 2008. The guest speaker April Johnson is in fact a victim advocate in the Domestic Violence Court and the undersigned was involved in the ribbon cutting ceremony declaring the program open (a copy of the mailing is attached).
- 2 The YWCA was involved once again in their Week Without Violence including a number of activities and culminating in the dedication of the newly renovated building which has expanded services for long term survivors of Domestic Violence once they leave the SOS Shelter.
3. On October 9, 2008 a mailing was made to every high school and junior high school in the Broome County area. Twenty Nine in all received information regarding teen dating violence which was provided to us by the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. The information guide included website, a data sheet for parents, a child safety planning packet and the hotline numbers. The Court also extended an invitation to each school if they wished further information to contact the Domestic Violence Court in Binghamton. We also distributed to each school a poster declaring October to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It included the national hotline and website (a copy of the program is attached).
4. The Domestic Violence Court in Binghamton in conjunction with the I.D.V. Court from Broome County Family Court sent a mailing to the 182 Local Criminal courts in the Sixth Judicial District including a Domestic Violence Awareness poster, the national hotlines for

domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and teen dating abuse. We also included information in that packet including the power and control wheel, a practical judging guide to the most frequently asked questions in domestic violence cases and the poster (a copy of the mailing is attached).

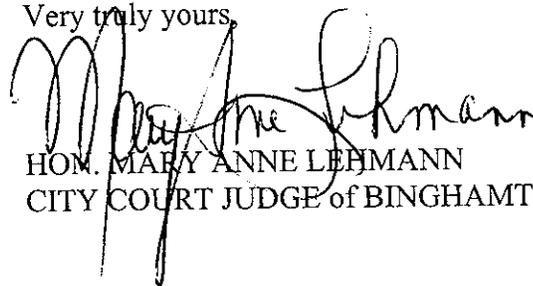
5. The undersigned will be engaged in the following lectures on November 7, 2008 at the state wide Court Clerks Association meeting in Terrytown, New York., this presentation will be on Domestic Violence, Orders of Protection, and Firearms. On Saturday, November 15, 2008 the undersigned will give a Domestic Violence training presentation to town and village justices for the sixth judicial district. On November 21, 2008 the undersigned will lead a breakout session for Domestic Violence Courts at the second annual symposium for specialty courts in Cooperstown.

6. On October 21, 2008 The Center For Court Innovation and Broome County Integrated Domestic Violence Court presented a program "Immigration Consequences and Cultural Competency in Domestic Violence Cases" A Training Workshop that was held at the State Office Building in Binghamton, New York. It included continuing legal education credit and featured presentations by Sophie Feal, Supervising Immigration Attorney for the Erie County Bar Association and Linda Morales, the Director of the Multi-cultural Resource Center at Binghamton University (a copy of the flyer is attached).

7. On November 18, 2008 Tompkin's County IDV Court and the Tompkin's County Advocacy Center are sponsoring a conference to train law enforcement and probation officers "Making Domestic Violence Cases Less Frustrating". This is an all morning program. That same evening they will do a training for Town and Village Justices "Understanding Domestic Violence and its Impact on Judicial Proceedings" for CLE credits (memo is attached).

8. An article appeared in the District Wide Newsletter concerning domestic violence (attached).

Very truly yours,



HON. MARY ANNE LEHMANN
CITY COURT JUDGE of BINGHAMTON

MAL:ls

Enc.

cc: Hon. Michael V. Cocco, Administrative Judge
Christopher Esworthy, Deputy Chair



Annual Breakfast
Commemorating
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Friday, October 3, 2008

Welcome

Stacy Fiacco, Board President

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Chamber of Commerce

Invocation

Rabbi Rachel Esserman

Introduction

Patricia Erickson, Executive Director

Proclamations

Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, presented by Dennis McCabe
Senator Thomas Libous, presented by Patricia Erickson

Recognitions

Volunteer of the Year - Laura Fagin
Volunteer Coordinator - Marilyn Shafer
Community Supporter - Sophia Resciniti
Employee of the Year - Flo Pacifico
Surprise Recognition
Board of Directors
Staff
Volunteers

Guest Speaker

April Johnson

Conclusion



MARY ANNE LEHMANN
WILLIAM C. PELELLA
DANIEL L. SEIDEN
CITY COURT JUDGES



CATHERINE R. MALONEY
CHIEF CLERK
SHERRY L. BAKER
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

BINGHAMTON CITY COURT
GOVERNMENTAL PLAZA, 38 HAWLEY STREET
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13901
TELEPHONE 607-772-7006
FAX 607-772-7041

October 9, 2008

Vestal Senior High School
205 Woodlawn Drive
Vestal, New York 13850

Dear Superintendent:

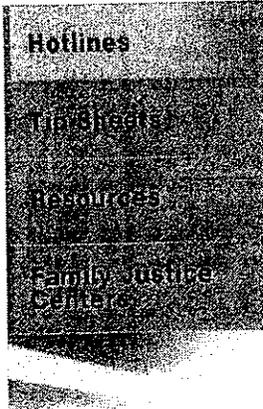
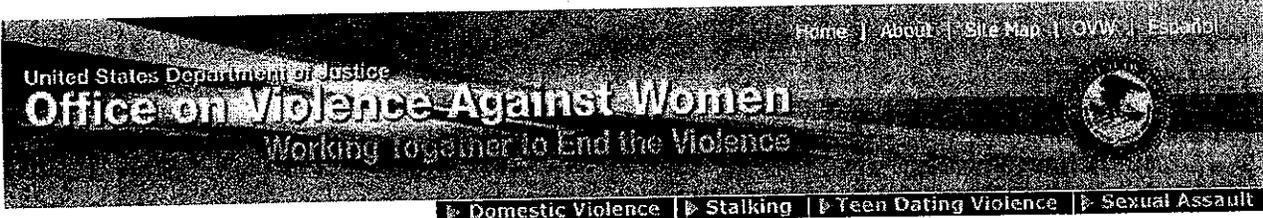
Enclosed please find information from the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence on teen dating and domestic violence, tips for parents, and resources such as websites and data sheets. The information is enclosed for you to distribute as you see fit as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month which is October. As you may know Binghamton City Court has a Domestic Violence part which is marking it's fifth anniversary this October. We have launched an extensive effort of community outreach and education hoping to make prevention a part of the Courts efforts. If you require further information or would like to inquire regarding age appropriate programs to present to your students and/or teachers and faculty please don't hesitate to contact the Court. You may speak directly with me or the Domestic Violence Court Coordinator Steven Cwikla and we will be happy to help you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Anne Lehmann". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "M".

MARY ANNE LEHMANN
CITY COURT JUDGE of BINGHAMTON

MAL:ls
cc: Steven Cwikla
Karen Ambrozik
Hon. Michael V. Cocco



Hotlines

Contact the following organizations if you need someone to talk to:

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE (1-800-799-7233)
 TTY: 1-800-787-3224

Staff provide callers with crisis intervention, information about domestic violence, and referrals to local programs 24/7. Telephone assistance is available in many languages, including Spanish.

National Center for Victims of Crime
1-800-FYI-CALL (1-800-394-2255)
 TTY: 1-800-211-7996

The National Center for Victims of Crime is home to the Stalking Resource Center and offers a database of more than 10,000 organizations that link victims with a variety of important services, including crisis intervention, information, assistance throughout the criminal justice process, counseling, support groups, and legal counsel.

[Contact Us](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [FOIA](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

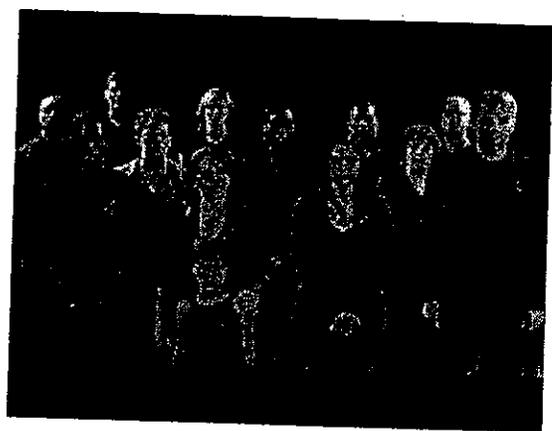
[No FEAR Act](#) | [USA.gov](#) | [Legal Policies and Disclaimers](#)

- Hotlines**

- Tip Sheets**

- Resources**

- Family Justice Centers**



- Domestic Violence Awareness**
- Stalking Awareness**
- Teen Dating Violence Awareness**
- Sexual Assault Awareness**

**February 4-8, 2008 is
 National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week
 End It Now.**

Dating violence can include physical, emotional, verbal, psychological or sexual abuse. It is important to educate teens and those who can influence them to distinguish violent dating behaviors from healthy behaviors. Use this site to access information that can help.

If you or someone you know is experiencing dating violence, please call the National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline at 1-866-331-9474 (1-866-331-8453 TTY) for assistance and more information (available 24/7). You can also chat on-line at www.loveisrespect.org with a trained Peer Advocate who can offer support and connect you to resources from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. (CST) daily.

For more info, visit the [Office on Violence Against Women website](http://www.oovaw.org).

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

- [Contact Us](#)
- [Accessibility](#)
- [FOIA](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [No FEAR Act](#)
- [USA.gov](#)
- [Legal Policies and Disclaimers](#)

MARY ANNE LEHMANN
WILLIAM C. PELELLA
DANIEL L. SEIDEN
CITY COURT JUDGES

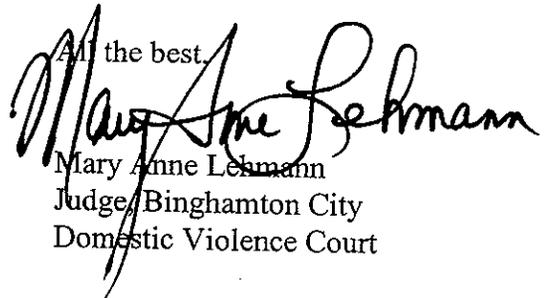


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Your Honor:

Enclosed please find information regarding Domestic Violence. This information is sent during October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As judges however, we know that every month is Domestic Violence awareness month, as we deal with these cases spring, summer, fall and winter. It is my hope that the information enclosed will be of assistance to you in handling Domestic Violence Cases. If you ever have any questions please don't hesitate to call me.

All the best,

Mary Anne Lehmann
Judge, Binghamton City
Domestic Violence Court



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

If you or someone you know is being abused, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-SAFE (7233) or 800-787-3224 (TTY).

If you are interested in information, referrals, or funding opportunities related to domestic violence, visit OVW's Web site at www.usdoj.gov/ovw.



Working Together to End the Violence

Nearly 25% of surveyed women and 8% of surveyed men said they were raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, cohabiting partner, or date at some time in their lives. Domestic violence is wrong. It affects not only the direct victims, but their children and families as well. Working together, men and women can change attitudes and perceptions about domestic violence.

For more information, contact the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women at 202-307-6026, or visit our Web site at www.usdoj.gov/ovw.

Office on Violence Against Women



U.S. Department of Justice



National Domestic Violence

Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE
(7233) or 1-800-787-3224
(TTY) available 24 hours a
day/7 days a week.



National Sexual Assault

Hotline: 1-800-656-HOPE
(4673) available 24/7 for the
nearest rape crisis center.



National Stalking Resource

Center: 1-800-FYI-CALL (1-
800-394-2255) M-F 8:30 AM -
8:30 PM EST or email
gethelp@ncvc.org.



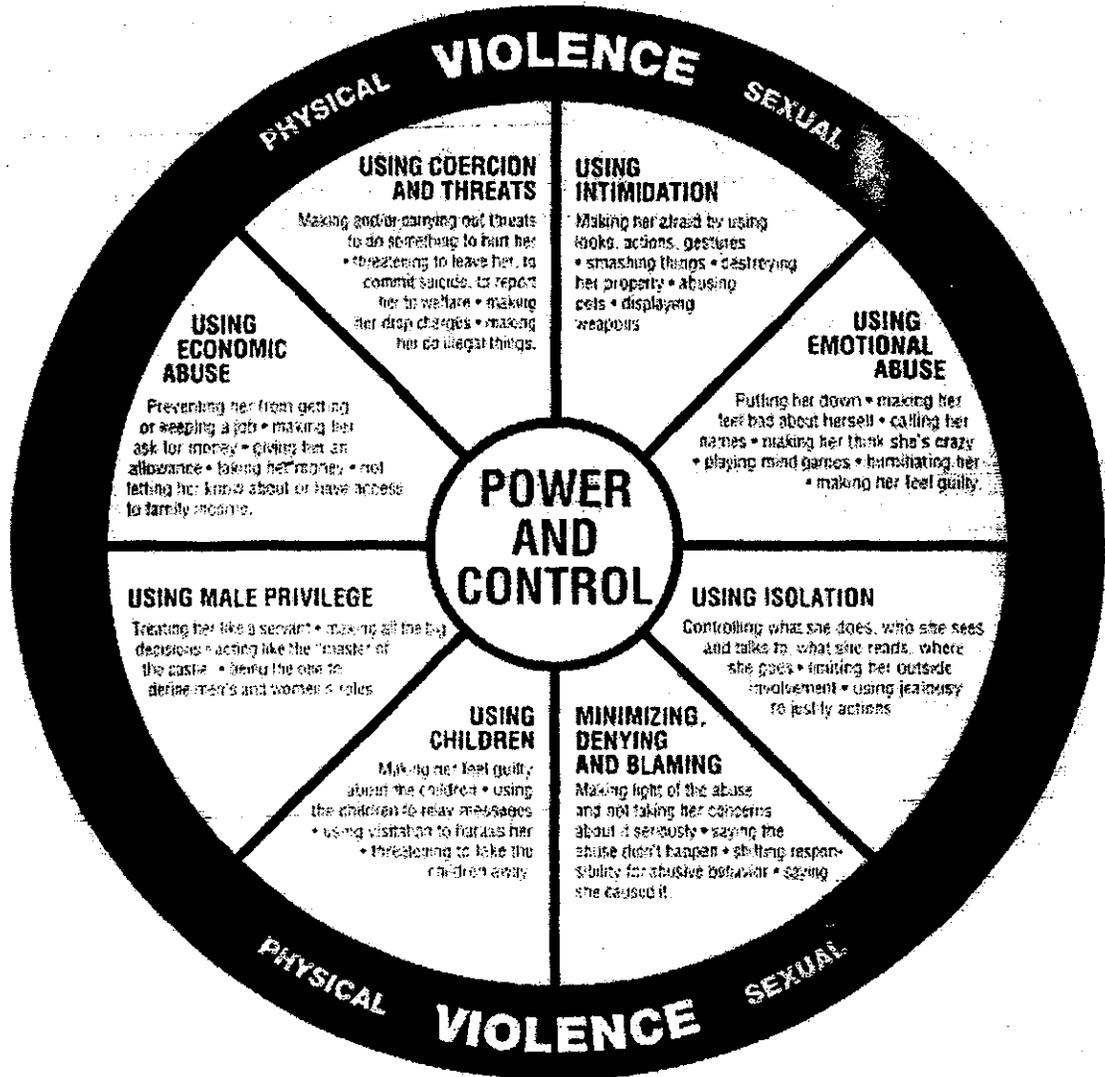
National Teen Dating Abuse

Helpline: 1-866-331-9474 (1-
866-331-8453 TTY) available
24/7 or connect with a trained
Peer Advocate online at
www.loveisrespect.org from 4
p.m. to 2 a.m. daily (CST).



A Power and Control Perspective (Wheel)

(Text version of Power and Control Model of Domestic Violence)



Courtesy of: Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, 202 East Superior Street, Duluth MN, 55802, (218) 722-2781

[Back to About Domestic Violence](#)

[Back to OPDV Home Page](#)

**THE CENTER FOR COURT INNOVATION &
BROOME COUNTY INTEGRATED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT**
Present

**“Immigration Consequences and Cultural Competency
in Domestic Violence Cases”
A Training Workshop**

**State Office Building, 18th floor, Binghamton, NY
October 21, 2008
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Continuing Legal Education credit and light breakfast provided

Presenters:

**Sophie Feal
Supervising Immigration Attorney
Erie County Bar Association
Volunteer Lawyers Program**

**Linda Morales
Director,
Multi- cultural Resource Center
Binghamton University**

**To register, please contact:
Tracy Ligouri
Coordinator, Broome County IDV Court
(607) 778-2448
tligouri@courts.state.ny.us**

The Center for Court Innovation is an accredited Continuing Legal Education provider.

From: Susan Leonardos
To: Lehmann, Mary Anne
Date: 10/29/2008 12:51 PM
Subject: Fwd: Re: October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

>>> Rebecca Jackson 10/29/2008 12:33 PM >>>
Susan-

We here in Tompkins County are having November Domestic Violence Awareness month, as we couldn't coordinate a time in October that worked for everyone. Date will be November 18th.

In the morning 8-11:30 will be a training for law enforcement and probation entitled, Making Domestic Violence Cases Less Frustrating. In the evening 6-9pm we will be having a training for town/village justices, and attorneys that offers CLE credits for attorneys and 2 continuing education credits for the judges titled Understanding Domestic Violence and Its Impact on Judicial Proceedings

Tompkins Co. IDV Court and The Tompkins County Advocacy Center are working together to make this conference happen.

Presenting will be Bob Passonno of NYS office for Prevention of Domestic Violence and local attorney Lucy Gold.

Fliers for this special event will go out within the next week.

Rebecca Jackson
Resource Coordinator
IDV Court Tompkins County
607-277-1359
rmjackson@courts.state.ny.us

>>> Susan Leonardos 10/29/2008 12:24 PM >>>

Judge Lehmann, Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee, is interested in any efforts that are made throughout the District with regards to Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Please let me know if your court and/or Judges do anything or if anyone attends a community event for this cause. Thank you.

October National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic violence is everyone's business. Take a few minutes of your time to educate yourself about this issue and make it your business!

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic Violence encompasses partner abuse, battering, intimate partner violence, and dating violence, is defined as a pattern of intentional violent and/or controlling behavior by a person who is currently, or was previously, in an intimate relationship with the victim.

Domestic Violence Myths and Facts:

Myth: Domestic violence implies physical violence. If someone is not being hit, they are not being abused.

Fact: Abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional, verbal or financial. Abuse is about power and control.

Myth: Domestic violence only happens to certain types of people, not to me or my kind.

Fact: Battering crosses all economic, educational and racial lines. There is no "typical" victim.

Myth: Most battering is just a one time episode.

Fact: During the six months following an episode of domestic violence, 32% of battered women are victimized again. In fact, 47% of men who beat their wives do so at least 3 times per year.

Myth: If it were really that bad, she would just leave.

Fact: Leaving an abuser can sometimes be more dangerous than staying because the abuser's sense of control is threatened. Women are more likely to be victims of homicide when they leave their batterers than when they live with them. When stalking occurs in a relationship, it typically begins after the woman tries to leave.

Myth: Battering is a momentary loss of control.

Fact: Battering is not about anger or losing control; it is an intentional choice focused on maintaining power and control in the relationship. Batterers manage to not beat their bosses or terrorize their friends when they are angry.

Myth: Domestic violence doesn't happen in gay and lesbian relationships and is more common among straight couples than in same-sex relationships.

Fact: Violence occurs in same sex relationships at about the same rate as in heterosexual relationships.

Prevalence of Domestic Violence

- Annual estimates range from 960,000 to 3 million incidents of physical violence against a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend.
- Both men and women are victims of domestic violence but the literature indicates that women are much more likely than men to suffer physical as well as psychological, injuries.
- Nearly 5.3 million intimate partner victimizations occur among U.S. women, ages 18 and older, each year. This violence results in nearly 2 million injuries and nearly 1,300 deaths. More than 555,000 injuries require medical attention, and more than 145,000 are serious enough to warrant hospitalization for one or more nights.
- In 2001, more than half a million American women (588,490) were victims of non-fatal violence committed by an intimate partner.
- As many as 324,000 women each year experience intimate partner violence during their pregnancy.

Domestic Homicides

- On average, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in this country every day. In 2000, 1,247 women were killed by an intimate partner. The same year, 440 men were killed by an intimate partner.
- Women are much more likely than men to be killed by an intimate partner. In 2000, intimate partner homicides accounted for 33.5 percent of the murders of women and less than four percent of the murders of men.

Domestic Violence and Children

- In a national survey of more than 6,000 American families, 50 percent of the men who frequently assaulted their wives also frequently abused their children.
- Slightly more than half of female victims of intimate violence live in households with children under age 12.
- Studies suggest that between 33-10 million children witness some form of domestic violence annually.

Abuse Checklist

Does the person with whom you are in a relationship with do any of these things?

- Making you feel like you are walking on eggshells and changing your behavior to please his or her moods.
- Ridiculing or humiliating you.
- Seeming like two different people.
- Controlling where you go and what you do.
- You don't see family or friends to avoid his or her jealousy or anger.
- Forcing or coercing you to have sex or hurts you during sex.

- Wanting you to depend on them financially and expecting you to support them.
- Accusing you of having affairs.
- Forcing or coercing you to use drugs or alcohol.
- Threatening you, screaming at you, throwing things, opening your mail, reading your journal, breaking or stealing your things.
- Using your race, age, sexual orientation or identity, disability, immigration status, class, body size or appearance, religion, HIV status, etc. against you.
- Slapping, pulling, shoving, hitting, kicking, burning, punching, choking, or restraining you.
- Withholding medications or putting you in a situation that jeopardizes your health.
- Blaming his or her behavior on alcohol, drugs, or a history of abuse.
- Threatening to have your kids taken away from you and/or abusing your kids.

Arizona Department of Corrections

If you are interested in more information, contact your **Work/Life Assistance Program**. Trained professional counselors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide free and confidential assistance. Contact the **Work/Life Assistance Program** at 800-833-8707 or log on to www.login.corporatecounseling.com and enter your company code for more information.



2008 NONJUDICIAL SEMINARS

**CITY AND DISTRICT
AND
SUPREME AND COUNTY
COURT CLERKS**

**ORDERS OF
PROTECTION AND
GUN ORDERS**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES
ORDERS OF PROTECTION
AND FIREARMS

by Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann
Binghamton City Court Judge
Acting Broome County Court Judge

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES
ORDERS OF PROTECTION
& FIREARMS

Law: State, CPL § 530.14

I. Temporary Order of Protection

1. Mandatory suspension and surrender
2. "Permissive" suspension and surrender

II. Final Order of Protection

Hearing for mandatory or permissive suspension and surrender

III. Family Court Act § 842-a(1) and (2) (2002)

Federal, 18 USC § 921 and § 922

Appendix

Temporary/Final Order of Protection; Family Offense CPL § 530.12, Non-family Offense
CPL § 530.13

Form to request Temporary or Final Order of Protection with disclaimer for sharing
information

Destruct Order

STATE LAW: CPL § 530.14

I. Where a temporary order of protection is issued under CPL § 530.12(1) or § 530.13(1)

and the Court has "good cause to believe" that the defendant:

- a) has a prior conviction for a violent felony offense (PL § 70.02)
- b) has previously disobeyed a prior order of protection and such has involved:
 - 1) infliction of serious physical injury
 - 2) the use or threatened use of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument PL § 10.00(12) or (13)
 - 3) engaged in behavior constituting any violent felony (PL § 70.02)
 - 4) been previously convicted of Stalking 1° (PL § 120.60), 2° (PL § 120.55), 3° (PL § 120.50) or 4° (PL § 120.45)

The court must:

- a) suspend any existing license to possess firearms
- b) order the defendant ineligible for such license
- c) order the immediate surrender of any and all firearms

The suspension order remains in effect for the duration of the temporary or final order of protection (unless modified or vacated by court).

The order to surrender firearms should be part of the temporary or final order of protection.

Surrender order must contain:

- 1) where such firearms shall be surrendered
- 2) the date and time by which surrender must be complete
- 3) description of firearms (to the extent possible)
- 4) a direction to the police to notify the court of surrender

The court, in its discretion, may

- a) suspend the defendant's existing license
- b) order the defendant ineligible for a license
- c) order the immediate surrender of any and all firearms, owned or possessed

if a temporary order of protection has been issued and the court finds that the defendant:

- a) may use
- b) or threaten to use a firearm unlawfully against the victim or witness

The defendant is entitled to a hearing regarding the suspension of license or surrender of firearms. (Must be "commenced" within 14 days of date of order.)

- II. Where a final order of protection is issued, post conviction, revocation of the license or privileges and surrender of any and all firearms is mandatory.

The court is responsible to notify police authorities, of the locality, of the above action taken and immediately notify the state registry and NY State Police in Albany.

- III. NY Family Court Act § 842-a, mirrors the criminal statute exactly and makes suspension and revocation of license and rights, and surrender of firearms, mandatory and permissive, as laid out above.

FAILURE TO SURRENDER FIREARMS

Where a Defendant, subject to an order of protection, fails to surrender their firearms as directed, the police or District Attorney may bring a charge against the Defendant for Criminal Contempt in the Second Degree pursuant to Penal Law section 215.50, a Class A Misdemeanor, under subdivision (3), "intentional disobedience or resistance to the lawful process or mandate of the Court".

The police or District Attorney may also apply for and be granted a search warrant to search the home of the Defendant and seize the firearms. The firearms are in fact evidence of the crime of criminal contempt.

DISPOSITION OF FIREARMS

Any firearms surrendered pursuant to the above shall be kept by the police agency to which it was surrendered in a secure location. Upon dismissal of the case the merit or an acquittal after trial, the firearms must be returned to the exonerated

defendant. Upon conviction for a domestic violence crime, the firearms may no longer, under Federal Law, be possessed by the Defendant. Where the weapons were used in the incident resulting in conviction the weapons are declared a nuisance and destroyed. CPL § 400.05 (see order in Appendix).

FEDERAL LAW

18 USC § 922(g)(8), makes it a federal crime for a person who is subject to a qualifying protection order to possess a firearm or ammunition, or to ship or receive a firearm or ammunition in interstate or foreign commerce. To qualify under § 922(g)(8), a protection order must:

- (1) have been issued after a hearing of which the respondent received actual notice, and at which the respondent had an opportunity to participate;
- (2) restrain the respondent from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner of the respondent or child of such intimate partner or the respondent, or engaging in other conduct that would place an intimate partner in reasonable fear of bodily injury to the partner or child; and
- (3) either include a finding that the respondent represents a credible threat to the physical safety of such intimate partner or child or by its terms explicitly prohibit the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against such intimate partner or child that would reasonably be expected to cause bodily injury.

Gun Control Act Amendments Related to Domestic Violence. ¹

1. Possession of firearms upon conviction of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. 18 U.S.C. §§ 921 and 922
 - (a) For purposes of this statute "intimate partner" is defined as:
 - i. The spouse or former spouse; or
 - ii. Parent or child; or
 - iii. An individual who cohabitates or has cohabited with the person.
 - (b) The Gun Control Act lists persons "disabled" from possessing firearms. This list now includes persons who have been convicted of a domestic violence misdemeanor. § 921 (a)(33)(A).
 - (c) The statute specifies:
 - i. A person may not possess, ship, transport, or receive firearms or ammunition, if;
 - ii. The person has been convicted in *any* court;
 - iii. Of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.
 - (d) Misdemeanor crime of domestic violence is defined as an offense that § 921 (a)(33)(A):
 - i. is a misdemeanor under state or federal law (with the right to counsel and any applicable right to jury trial either exercised or waived); and
 - ii. has as an element, the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon; and
 - iii. where the crime was committed by:
 - (A) a current or former spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim; or
 - (B) a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; or
 - (C) a person who is cohabiting with or has cohabited with the victim as spouse, parent or guardian; or
 - (D) a person similarly situated to a spouse, parent or guardian of the victim (by reference to state law).
 - (e) It is also unlawful for any person to sell or otherwise dispose of firearms or ammunition to a person while knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that the recipient has been convicted of such a misdemeanor. § 922 (d)(9).
 - (f) Misdemeanor domestic violence convictions result in a permanent ban on possession of firearms or ammunition.

- (g) Expunged convictions or pardons do not trigger the application of this ban and can even operate to reinstate the person's ability to possess firearms even after conviction. § 921 (a)(33)(B)(ii).
- (h) There is NO OFFICIAL USE EXEMPTION FOR POLICE OR MILITARY, which means that for some defendants, the conviction may mean the loss of a job.

2. Possession of a firearm while subject to a Restraining Order. § 922 (g)(8).

- (a) For purposes of this chapter, "intimate partner" is defined as:
 - i. spouse or former of the person; or
 - ii. parent of a child of the person; or
 - iii. an individual who cohabitates or has cohabited with the person. § 921 (a)(32).
- (b) This definition does not include people who are in a dating relationship that does not involve or has not involved cohabitation or a child in common.
- (c) § 922 (g)(8) includes individuals who are the subjects of a *final* restraining order to the list of person prohibited by federal law from purchasing, shipping, receiving and possessing firearms or ammunition.
- (e) This statute applies to a respondent who is restrained from harassing, stalking or threatening an "intimate partner" or placing the partner or partner's child in fear of bodily injury.
- (f) A qualified Order is a *final* order that was issued after reasonable *notice and opportunity to be heard* (not an ex parte order); and

Either:

 - i. states that the respondent poses a threat to the physical safety of the victim or child; or
 - ii. explicitly prohibits the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the intimate partner or child.
- (g) It is unlawful for any person to sell or otherwise dispose of firearms or ammunition to another person *who the seller knows or has reasonable cause to believe* is subject to a qualifying restraining order. § 922 (d)(8).

- (h) Active duty military and law enforcement have *official use exemption* from this firearm disability. This exemption does not apply to personal weapons and does not extend to use of service weapons outside the scope of employment.

3. Enforcement of Firearms Provisions

- (a) Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms ("ATF") is the federal law enforcement authority charged with enforcement of these crimes, but most effective response from the federal court system may be obtained if contact is made with the United States Attorney's office. The U.S. Attorney's office will examine each case to determine whether the case meets office priorities.
- (b) Where there is concern about the respondent's potential use of weapons against the victim, it would be most prudent to include within the protection order itself a provision that prohibits the respondent from possession of firearms. Such relief empowers local and state law enforcement agencies to enforce the firearm prohibitions where federal prosecution may not be forthcoming or not be timely enough to be useful.
- (c) Inclusion in every protection order a provision indicating that the respondent was served/present at the hearing will ensure that state and federal enforcing agencies know that the order qualifies under federal law.
- (d) Each protection order should include notice that federal penalties may apply to violation of the firearm ban, and of the fact that conviction may jeopardize immigration status.

APPENDIX

ORI No: _____ At a term of the _____ Court, County of _____, State of New York
Order No: _____ at the Courthouse at _____
NYSID No: _____

ORDER OF PROTECTION
Family Offenses - C.P.L. 530.12
Other Domestic Violence Crimes - C.P.L. 530.13¹

PRESENT: Hon. _____
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Youthful Offender (check if applicable)
Part: _____ Index/Docket No: _____
Indictment No., if any: _____
Charges: _____

_____ against
_____ Defendant
Date of Birth: _____

Ex Parte
 Defendant Present In Court
(check one)

NOTICE: YOUR FAILURE TO OBEY THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT YOU TO MANDATORY ARREST AND CRIMINAL PROSECUTION WHICH MAY RESULT IN YOUR INCARCERATION FOR UP TO SEVEN YEARS FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT. IF THIS IS A TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION AND YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IN COURT WHEN YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO SO, THIS ORDER MAY BE EXTENDED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND CONTINUE IN EFFECT UNTIL YOU REAPPEAR IN COURT.

TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION - Whereas good cause has been shown for the issuance of a temporary order of protection [as a condition of: recognizance release on bail adjournment in contemplation of dismissal]
 ORDER OF PROTECTION - Whereas defendant has been convicted of [specify crime or violation]: _____

And the Court having made a determination in accordance with section 530.12 or 530.13 of the Criminal Procedure Law, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the above-named defendant observe the following conditions of behavior:

[Check applicable paragraphs and subparagraphs]:

- [01] Stay away from [A] [name(s) of protected person(s) or witness(es)]: _____ and/or from the [B] home of _____, [C] school of _____, [D] business of _____, [E] place of employment of _____, [F] other _____.
- [14] Refrain from communication or any other contact by mail, telephone, e-mail, voice-mail or other means with [specify protected person(s)]: _____.
- [02] Refrain from assault, stalking, harassment, menacing, reckless endangerment, disorderly conduct, intimidation, threats, or any criminal offense against [specify name(s) of protected person(s), members of protected person's family or household, or person(s) with custody of child(ren)]: _____.
- [11] Permit [specify individual]: _____ to enter the residence at [specify]: _____ during [specify date/time]: _____ with [specify law enforcement agency, if any]: _____ to remove personal belongings not in issue in litigation [specify items]: _____.
- [04] Refrain from [indicate acts]: _____ that create an unreasonable risk to the health, safety, or welfare of [specify child(ren), family or household member]: _____.
- [05] Permit [specify individual(s)]: _____ entitled by a court order or separation or other written agreement, to visit with [specify child(ren)]: _____ during the following periods of time [specify]: _____, under the following terms and conditions [specify]: _____.
- [12] Surrender any and all handguns, pistols, revolvers, rifles, shotguns and other firearms owned or possessed, including, but not limited to, the following _____ Such surrender shall take place immediately, but in no event later than [specify date/time]: _____ at _____.
- [99] Specify other conditions defendant must observe: _____

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above-named Defendant's license to carry, possess, repair, sell or otherwise dispose of a firearm or firearms, if any, pursuant to Penal Law §400.00, is hereby [13A] suspended or [13B] revoked (note: final order only), and/or [13C] the Defendant shall remain ineligible to receive a firearm license during the period of this order. (Check all applicable boxes).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order of protection shall remain in effect until _____ (specify date)

DATED: _____

JUDGE / JUSTICE
Court (Court Seal)

Defendant advised in Court of issuance of Order.
Received by Defendant _____

Defendant's signature)

Service Executed Date: _____ Time: _____ Warrant issued for Defendant

The Criminal Procedure Law provides that presentation of a copy of this order of protection to any police officer or peace officer acting pursuant to his or her special duties shall authorize and in some situations may require, such officer to arrest a defendant who is alleged to have violated its terms and to bring him or her before the Court to face whatever penalties may be imposed therefor.

Federal law provides that this order must be honored and enforced by state and tribal courts, including courts of a state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States, if it is established that the person against whom the order is sought has been or will be afforded reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with state law sufficient to protect that person's rights (18 USC §§2265, 2266).

It is a federal offense to: cross state lines to violate an order of protection; cross state lines to engage in stalking, harassment or domestic violence against an intimate partner or family member; possess, purchase, ship, transfer or receive a handgun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm or ammunition following a conviction of a domestic violence misdemeanor involving the use or attempted use of physical force or a deadly weapon; or (except for military or law enforcement officers while on duty) possess, purchase, ship, transfer or receive a handgun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm or ammunition while an order of protection, issued after notice and an opportunity to be heard, that protects an intimate partner against assault, harassment, threatening and/or stalking, remains in effect (18 USC §§922(g)(8.9), 2261, 2261A, 2262).

¹ Use this form for orders of protection, issued to protect victims of domestic violence as defined in Soc. Serv. Law §459-a, that must be entered on the statewide registry of orders of protection [Exec.L. §221-a].

ORI No: _____
Order No: _____
NYSID No: _____

At a term of the _____ Court County of _____
at the Courthouse at (address) _____ State of New York

Present: Hon _____

People of the State of New York
-against-

ORDER OF PROTECTION
Non-Family Offense - C.P.L. 530.13¹
(Not involving victims of domestic violence)
 Youthful Offender (check if applicable)
Part _____ Index/Docket No. _____
Indictment No., if any: _____
Charges _____
(Check one): Ex parte
 Defendant Present in Court

Defendant
Date of Birth: _____

NOTICE: YOUR FAILURE TO OBEY THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT YOU TO MANDATORY ARREST AND CRIMINAL PROSECUTION, WHICH MAY RESULT IN YOUR INCARCERATION FOR UP TO SEVEN YEARS FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT. IF THIS IS A TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION AND YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IN COURT WHEN YOU ARE REQUIRED TO DO SO, THIS ORDER MAY BE EXTENDED IN YOUR ABSENCE AND CONTINUE IN EFFECT UNTIL YOU REAPPEAR IN COURT.

TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROTECTION. Whereas good cause has been shown for the issuance of a temporary order of protection [as a condition of recognizance release on bail adjournment in contemplation of dismissal],
 ORDER OF PROTECTION. Whereas defendant has been convicted of [specify crime or violation]: _____

and the Court having made a determination in accordance with section 530.13 of the Criminal Procedure Law,
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above-named defendant observe the following conditions of behavior:

(Check applicable paragraphs and subparagraphs):

- Stay away from [name(s) of protected person(s) or witness(es)]: _____
and/or from the home of _____
 school of _____
 business of _____
 place of employment of _____
 other _____
- Refrain from communication or any other contact by mail, telephone, e-mail, voice-mail or other means with [specify protected person(s)]: _____
- Refrain from assault, stalking, harassment, menacing, reckless endangerment, disorderly conduct, intimidation, threats or any criminal offense or interference with the victim or victims of, or designated witnesses to, the alleged offense and such members of the family or household of such victim(s) or witness(es) as shall be specifically named [specify]: _____
- Surrender any and all handguns, pistols, revolvers, rifles, shotguns and other firearms owned or possessed, including, but not limited to, the following: _____ Such surrender shall take place immediately, but no later than [specify date/time]: _____ at: _____
- Specify other conditions defendant must observe: _____

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above-named Defendant's license to carry, possess, repair, sell or otherwise dispose of a firearm or firearms, if any, pursuant to Penal Law §400.00, is hereby suspended or revoked (note: final order only), and/or the Defendant shall remain ineligible to receive a firearm license during the period of this order. (Check all applicable boxes). **NOTE: If this paragraph is checked, a copy of this form must be sent to: New York State Police, Pistol Permit Section, State Campus Building #22, 1220 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12226-2252.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order of protection shall remain in effect until _____.

DATED: _____

JUDGE / JUSTICE
COURT (COURT SEAL)

- Defendant advised in Court of issuance of Order.
Received by Defendant _____
(signature)
- Service Executed Date: _____ Time: _____ Warrant issued for Defendant

The Criminal Procedure Law provides that presentation of a copy of this order of protection to any police officer or peace officer acting pursuant to his or her special duties shall authorize, and in some situations may require, such officer to arrest a defendant who has violated its terms and to bring him or her before the Court to face whatever penalties may be imposed therefor.

Federal law provides that this order must be honored and enforced by state and tribal courts, including courts of a state, the District of Columbia, a commonwealth, territory or possession of the United States, if it is established that the person against whom the order is sought an intimate partner of the protected party and has been or will be afforded reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with state law sufficient to protect that person's rights (18 U.S.C. §§2265, 2266).

It is a federal offense to: cross state lines to violate an order of protection; cross state lines to engage in stalking, harassment or domestic violence; possess, purchase, ship, transfer or receive a handgun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm or ammunition following a conviction of a domestic violence misdemeanor involving the use or attempted use of physical force or a deadly weapon; or (except for military or law enforcement officers while on duty) possess, purchase, ship, transfer or receive a handgun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm or ammunition while an order of protection, issued after notice and an opportunity to be heard, that protects an intimate partner from assault, harassment, threatening and/or stalking, remains in effect (18 U.S.C. §§922(g)(8), 922(g)(9), 2261, 2261A, 2262).

¹ Use this form for non-family offense orders of protection, issued pursuant to CPL §530.13, that are not issued to protect victims of domestic violence, as defined by Social Services Law §459-a and thus are not entered onto the statewide domestic violence registry. See Exec. L. §221-a(1); CPL §530.13.

REQUEST FOR ORDER OF PROTECTION
CITY OF BINGHAMTON
BUREAU OF POLICE

DATE: _____

BPD CASE # _____

ATTENTION: CITY COURT JUDGES & COORDINATED COMMUNITY
RESPONSE TEAM FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

FROM: VICTIM

Last Name	First	Middle
DOB	Race	Color of Hair/Eyes
	Hgt.	Weight
Address		Street & Apt. #
City	State	Zip Code
Soc Sect#	Home Phone:	
Employer & Address:		
Employer Phone:		

AGAINST
DEFENDANT

Last Name	First	Middle
DOB	Race	Color of Hair/Eyes
	Hgt.	Weight
Address: Street & Apt. #		City
	State	Zip
Home Phone	Employer & Address & Phone	

**Are there guns in the residence? _____

If so, how many and what kind? _____

I HEREBY REQUEST AN ORDER OF PROTECTION AGAINST THE PERSON LISTED ABOVE AND WILL APPEAR IN/OR CALL BINGHAMTON CITY COURT (772-7006) THE NEXT MORNING. I FURTHER AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF THIS INFORMATION TO THE COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND/OR ANY AUTHORIZED AGENT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO SOS AND CRIME VICTIM'S ASSISTANCE CENTER.

Signature of Person Making Request: X _____

DEFENDANT & VICTIM RELATIONSHIP: (check one listed below)

1. Are legally married to one another
2. Were formerly married to one another
3. Are related by blood
4. Are related by marriage
5. Have a child in common (name & age of child) _____
6. Intimate Partners either living apart or together now or in the past
7. Living in the same household now or in the past
8. None of the above

Signature of Officer

At a Term of the City Court of Binghamton held in the City Hall, Fifth Floor in the City of Binghamton, Broome County, New York, on the ____ day of _____, 2005.

PRESENT: HON. MARY ANNE LEHMANN
City Court Judge of Binghamton

STATE OF NEW YORK :: COUNTY OF BROOME
CITY COURT :: CITY OF BINGHAMTON

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

-vs-

DESTRUCT
ORDER

Defendant Docket No.

An application having been made sua sponte by the court for an Order directing the destruction of evidence against the defendant who has been charged and convicted of Discharging a Firearm Within the City Limits, in violation of §14-6 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Binghamton, a violation, and the defendant having exhausted his appeal rights, the court is satisfied that there is reason to believe that the case against the defendant is closed and has been so since October 1, _____ and directs that the evidence, the BB gun, be declared a nuisance and destroyed, pursuant to §400.05 of the Criminal Procedure Law of the State of New York.

It is so ordered.

ENTER: October 1, _____

HON. MARY ANNE LEHMANN
CITY COURT JUDGE of BINGHAMTON

Seventh Judicial District Committee Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Teresa D. Johnson

Supervising Judge Rochester City Court
Hall of Justice
99 Exchange Blvd.
Rochester, NY 14614-2187
585-429-1904



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee:

Seventh Judicial District Gender Fairness committee

Name and Title of Chair

Honorable Teresa D. Johnson, Chair

Supervising Judge, Rochester City Court/ Acting County Court Judge

Members – would you attach a list of your members?

We have 22 members, including judges, law clerks, clerks and support staff, Assistant District Attorneys and Assistant Public defenders, private practitioners, court security and the head of our local battered women's shelter.

Dates of Meetings:

March 13, 2008, May 15, 2008, August 14, 2008, November 13, 2008, December 1, 2008

Average Attendance :

8

Do you use of Video Conferencing?

We have not used video conferencing. We held our may 14th meeting in Canandaigua New York in an effort to be more inclusive.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008:

We did not have an activity for Domestic Violence Month. The Domestic Violence Consortium here in Monroe County had a full day event and the women's bar association had an event. We are looking into the possibility of pairing with one of them for next year.

Activities for Women's History Month 2009:

We are having a forum on May 6th entitled: Changing Her Story. It is a panel discussion with a former judge who is now in charge of a student practice program at a law school, a former female police lieutenant who now has her own agency reviewing criminal justice grants, a lawyer who started out in a large firm practice who now runs a youth services agency and a former teacher turned city council president turned president of her own consulting firm. All of these women have shaped their own destiny while making history in this community.

Other Activities in the Past Year:

On June 19 and 20, 2008 we hosted a visit of the Honorable Judith Kaye to the Rochester. We worked in collaboration with the Monroe County Bar Association, the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys, The Rochester Association for Black Attorneys and the Ontario County Bar Association. Judge Kaye attended a breakfast meeting hosted by our Committee at the Susan B. Anthony House on June 19th.. We had the chance to discuss with her our visions for change and her hopes for the future of groups like ours. She spent a couple of hours meeting with us and touring the Susan B. Anthony House.

The visit with Judge Kaye in the Rochester area included a breakfast meeting with the Greater Rochester Association for Women attorneys on June 20th followed by a visit to the Ontario County Courthouse, the courthouse where Susan B. Anthony was tried and convicted of voting in violation of law. Judge Kaye arrived by horse-drawn carriage and was treated to a re-enactment of the closing arguments of that trial, with a jury box filled with prominent women from the area. Barbara Blaisdell, a well-known Susan B. Anthony impersonator played the part of Ms. Anthony, and gave an impassioned argument on her own behalf. A reception followed. Judge Kaye thoroughly enjoyed herself and we enjoyed having her!

What are your plans for next year?:

Our plans for next year include a program on cyber stalking which we hope to work on with the women's bar association for Domestic Violence Month. We are also working on some mechanism to publicize the existence of the committee as a resource within the community without taking on any formal dispute resolution obligations.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important this year?

We are hearing, anecdotally, that there may be issues with female court security being treated unfairly in assignments, etc. Our security is provided by the Monroe County Sheriff's Department. Some issues have been addressed informally, but there may be a need for ma more formal discussion about potential issues.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Do you see unmet training needs?

None at this time.

What do you see as the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

Our Family Court Judges see the lack of sufficient judges as the most pressing need. Certain aspects of the cases are farmed out to judicial hearing officers who were never Family Court Judges and referees, which affects the continuity of attention to a particular case, family or issue. Judicial hearing officers only handle civil DV cases and the referees only handle custody cases. Many families have these issues pending at the same time and are required to explain their problems to two fact-finders, who sometimes make inconsistent decisions. Comprehensive, focused, attention on a family and its issues is threatened by these practices.

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?:

The help has been good. The meeting in October was particularly helpful. It would be nice, however, if we could learn of the programs around the state before they happen. I think it would be helpful, especially in the smaller communities, to have the opportunity to attend some of the programs put on by the other committees.

Please return this form by **April 3, 2009**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts,
25 Beaver St., Rm 878, New York, NY 10004, 212-428-2793 (Fax)
Jgoodman@Courts.state.ny.us

Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Hon. Rosalie S. Bailey

Eire County Family Court
Erie County Courthouse
One Niagra Plaza
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-845-7115



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Name and Title of Chair: Hon. Rosalie S. Bailey
Erie County Family Court Judge

Members 29 (see attached list of members)

Dates of Meetings: 2/21/08; 9/23/08; 12/16/08

Average Attendance: 13

Use of Video Conferencing? Yes

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008:

We gathered information about numerous local observations & activities within our eight county district & made the information available to employees. Committee members participated in and represented our committee at a number of programs.

Activities for Women's History Month 2009:

1. We will be sponsoring our district wide Lamplighter's Luncheon in June honoring women who have led the way and made a difference for women in our community. Details are currently being finalized.
2. We are in process of preparing a photo exhibit for display at the Wyoming County Courthouse recognizing the contributions of Ella Hawley Crossett. Ms. Crossett, from Warsaw, NY., was president of the New York State Suffrage Association from 1902 - 1910 and was a leader in securing equal rights for women in our state.

Other Activities in the Past Year:

1. We sponsored a very successful Human Trafficking Program open to all court employees and the public. Deputy Elizabeth Rodriguez Fildes spoke at a lunch hour program and information about this important issue was disseminated.
2. Jill Goodman came to Buffalo and addressed our committee about upcoming changes in the law which will affect women.
3. We toured the Erie County Family Court Child Care Center and met with the director and foster grandparents and discussed operations and needs.
4. We cooperated with the District's Black History Month program. We cosponsored the presentation of the movie "The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till".

5. For Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the committee and all employees were invited to join with the WNY Chapter of the Womens Bar Association in a walk "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer".

6. At our meetings we have discussed and informally monitored the numbers of new 'intimate partners' family offense filings. We continue, as always, to monitor the level of women in judicial and supervisory positions in our courts.

Plans for Next Year:

We are looking forward to our Lamplighters Luncheon in June.

Because of a disturbing growth in the number of employees with cancer, we are working on an extended Cancer Awareness Program this year. We have planned a panel discussion including not only representatives of the American Cancer Society, but also survivors who are court employees. We plan to offer written information. We hope to use this program as a springboard for diagnosed employees to join informally with others, if they desire, to meet and offer support to each other.

In addition, for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we plan to offer a tour of the local Gilda's Club.

We are discussing having a speaker on problems facing immigrant women in our community.

We have been outlining a program on Caring for Our Elderly Parents. There seems to be a great deal of interest in this topic.

We hope to put on a Human Trafficking Program in Niagara County later this year.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important this year?

Accessibility to the courts and to services is always a concern. In these times of severe economic strain, we need to do all we can to ensure that waiting time in the courts is kept to a minimum. So, too, should we minimize waiting time for necessary services: supervised access, mediation, drug and alcohol programs, mental health evaluation and counseling.

Safety in the courts is very important. We need up to date facilities with safe waiting rooms, adequate restrooms for women and available child care.

Additionally, I believe there should be continued emphasis on ensuring available and qualified interpreters.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Do you see unmet training needs?

Our Administrative Judge is a former committee member and our district Executive is a current committee member. They are both sensitive and proactive to the needs of women in our district and to our training needs.

What do you see as the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

We continue to have a severe need for more Family Court judges. Erie needs two more judges, Chautauqua County needs one and Niagara County needs one.

We have a real need for more back office staff. Over the past year we have seen the introduction of new legislation affecting additional record-checking, permanency and intimate relationship family offenses. Each of these increases the already overwhelming workload of our staff. Further, we need additional chambers and courtroom staff to support the City Court Judges who are being used as Acting Family Court Judges.

The need for additional staffing has been exacerbated by the vacancy control program and budget problems.

The litigants in Family Court can and do benefit from the increased use of social workers. In Erie County, the Children Come First program has been successful in meeting some previously unmet needs. However, while we would like to expand the program throughout the district, we have been unable to add necessary staffing.

New legislation introduced this year has brought real benefits and problems:

Firstly, legislation requiring record checks, registry checks and warrant checks in custody and visitation cases resulted in a tremendous increase in time and additional paperwork. Some of the initial results we received were not applicable or overly inclusive and difficult to decipher. This problem is being addressed at the statewide level and we have been getting more specific and appropriate results. It is a work in process and the committee is actively seeking input from Family Court judges and staff and working to make it more effective.

Secondly, the expansion of family offense protection to intimate relationships has led to a concern that all orders of protection are actually served timely due to the increased numbers. There is a need for monitoring to avoid delays in service of orders of protection .

I believe there is also a need for mediation services in the less populous counties.

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on women in the Courts?

1. We always like to receive newsletters, publications and updates from the State Committee as well as information about planned programs.
2. I felt the program offered for Committees outside NYC was extremely valuable and would like this to be a yearly event.

Please return this form by **April 3, 2009**, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878, New York, NY 10004
212-428-2793 (Fax) Jgoodman@Courts.state.ny.us

8TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER & RACIAL FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

Hon. Rosalie S. Bailey, Chairperson

Erie County Family Court
One Niagara Plaza
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-845-7475
RBAILEY@courts.state.ny.us

Mona Baskin, Esq.

Erie County Surrogate's Court
92 Franklin Street, 2nd Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202
MBASKIN@courts.state.ny.us

Hon. Betty Calvo-Torres

Buffalo City Court
50 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-845-2640
BCALVOTO@courts.state.ny.us

Hon. Sheila DiTullio

Erie County Court
92 Franklin Street
Buffalo, NY 14202
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SDITULLI@courts.state.ny.us

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Hon. Jerome Gorski

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Buffalo City Court
50 Delaware Avenue
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303 Court Street
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25 Delaware Avenue
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One Niagara Plaza
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50 Delaware Avenue
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Marie Villari

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Hon. John Ward

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1 North Erie Street, PO Box 292
Mayville, NY 14757
716-753-4245
JWARD@courts.state.ny.us

Oliver Young, Esq.

Principal Court Attorney
92 Franklin Street, 2nd Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202
716-845-9327
OYOUNG@courts.state.ny.us

Attached is an email I received from a court employee. Although the speech she refers to was given not by me, but by a representative from the American Cancer society, I wanted to share this email with the Committee because it demonstrates how important our programming truly is.

Page 1 of 1

Rose Bailey - Seminar

From: [REDACTED]
To: Rose Bailey
Date: 11/18/2008 1:15 PM
Subject: Seminar

Hi Rose, I don't know if you've heard but I've been diagnosed with breast cancer. As you can imagine my head is spinning. [REDACTED] said you gave a speech at a seminar which was really wonderful. Kathy put it in a safe spot and now can't find it. She said there was a list of important questions to ask your doctor. I have an appointment with a breast surgeon on Monday [REDACTED] and an appointment at [REDACTED] for a second opinion the next day. I was wondering if you had a copy of those questions?

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS PROGRAM

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2008
12:30 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

**CEREMONIAL COURTROOM
92 FRANKLIN STREET
BUFFALO, NY 14202**

**SPEAKER: DEPUTY ELIZABETH FILDES
PROGRAM DIRECTOR
ERIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

**Come get informed
on what is happening
in our community and
throughout the world**

**Brought to you by the 8th Judicial District
Gender and Racial Fairness Committee**



PRESS RELEASE

**New York State
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Sharon S. Townsend
Administrative Judge**

**Contact: Andrew B. Isenberg
District Executive
Telephone: (716) 845-2506**

For Immediate Release, January 31, 2008

THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DIVERSITY STEERING COMMITTEE AND THE ERIE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE PRESENT BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2008

The Honorable Judge Sharon S. Townsend, Administrative Judge of the Eighth Judicial District along with the District's Diversity Steering Committee would like to announce that the Courts will celebrate Black History Month throughout the month of February. We are excited to highlight significant contributions of African Americans in our court system including Judges, non-judicial employees and other members of the Western New York Community who have contributed so much.

Black History Month celebrations in Old County Hall will begin February 4, 2008 with The Eighth Judicial District and the Erie County Clerk, Hon. Kathy C. Hochul, joining forces to present the Black History Month Kick-Off Celebration featuring some of our area's richest historic treasures. This event will take place on the First Floor of Old County Hall located at 92 Franklin Street and will include local black authors who will feature their work and meet with the public and the Historic Michigan Avenue Heritage Corridor Exhibit which was created to commemorate the African-American experience in Buffalo and emphasize the historic role this area played in the Underground Railroad, the Civil Rights Movement and the emergence of Jazz music. The exhibit, which is open to the public, includes information about the following historic gems:

The Historic Michigan Avenue Baptist Church, one of the cities oldest properties which has continuously served as a place of worship for African-Americans and as a stop on the Underground Railroad for those seeking the freedom offered in the North in the mid 1800's.

The Nash House Museum, once the home of Reverend Jesse E. Nash, widely recognized for his leadership in this area during the Civil Rights Movement.

The Buffalo Colored Musicians Club, who will provide music for this event. This historic club was originally organized here in Buffalo in 1918 and has long provided opportunities for some of Buffalo's most talented Musicians including Supreme Court Justice Frederick Marshall.

(more)

The exhibit will also feature information about African American genealogy searches taking place in the Erie County Clerk's House of Records. One of the Eighth Judicial District's employees and member of the Diversity Steering Committee was able to find her grandparent's marriage records and their connection to Rev. J. Edgar Nash and the Michigan Avenue Corridor in the Erie County House of Records. "We are excited to highlight local African American authors, significant local Black history and historic sites and treasures that exist in Western New York," said County Clerk Kathy Hochul. "Genealogists search through our records looking for their past and countless numbers have been successful in piecing together timeless stories that make up our rich heritage here in Western New York." More about this exciting tale will be featured in the special Black History Month edition of The Docket which will be released mid-February.

On February 14, 2008, The Gender & Diversity Fairness Committee & The 8th Judicial District Diversity Steering Committee will present "The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till", the award winning documentary that helped re-open one of history's most notorious Civil Rights era murders. The film presentation will be open to the public beginning at 12:15 p.m. in the Ceremonial Courtroom on the second floor of Old County Hall, 92 Franklin Street.

To end our month-long celebration, we will have a Diversity Luncheon for employees of the 8th Judicial District which will feature dishes that represent a host of cultures and regions. This event is for 8th Judicial employees only and will take place on the 7th Floor of Buffalo City Court, 50 Delaware Avenue at 12 noon on February 28, 2008.

When asked about the events for the month Judge Townsend stated, "I hope everyone will take the opportunity to experience these events planned by the Diversity Steering Committee. Every year, I renew my commitment as Administrative Judge to promote diversity in the Eighth Judicial District and in our community. I will continue to recognize the diverse individuals whose contributions have made a difference in our community."

###

Ella Hawley Crossett



Click on any image to see larger picture

Born	March 21, 1853
Birthplace	Gainesville, New York
Died	December 2, 1925
Grave Site	Warsaw, New York
Contribution	A leader in regional and national suffrage organizations.

Ella Hawley was born in Gainesville, New York on March 21, 1853, to John Waldo and Juliet Thorpe Hawley. Her parents were known for their progressive ideals, including their strong advocacy for women's suffrage. Her family moved to Warsaw (Wyoming County) New York, when she was a young girl. There, she attended the Warsaw Academy.

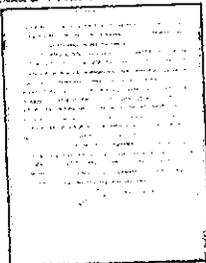
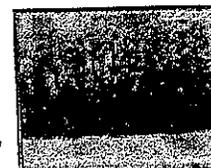
She married John B. Crossett of Orangeville, New York on October 22, 1878, at the age of 25. The couple settled for a number of years in Chicago where, their first child, Juliet, was born on March 20, 1880. A second daughter, Carolyn Hawley, was born on June 2, 1882, also in Chicago.

Ella Hawley Crossett and her family returned to Warsaw prior to 1890. Her husband was a partner in the Hawley Salt Works for many years before becoming president and manager of the Warsaw knitting mill. During these years, Crossett worked tirelessly for a number of causes, including the cause of women's suffrage.

Crossett's prominence in the suffrage movement can be traced to her attendance at the National American Woman Suffrage Association convention in Washington, D.C. in 1890, where she was a national delegate. In September of 1891 she organized a convention in Warsaw, at which Reverend Anna Howard Shaw and Susan B. Anthony spoke. At that convention, the Wyoming County Suffrage Association was formed, with Crossett named as president, a position that she held for many years. Shortly thereafter the Warsaw Political Equality Club was formed. Crossett was named president of this group as well, a position she retained until national women's suffrage was enacted into law.

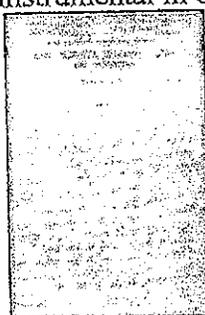
By the end of the decade, Crossett had achieved statewide prominence, rising to the rank of Vice-

President of the New York State Suffrage Association. In 1902 she was elected as President of the Association, a position that she held until 1910. Fanny Garrison Villard, also a suffragist and the daughter of William Lloyd Garrison (a gentleman known for his work to eliminate slavery), remembered that Crossett "attended 20



National Conventions....was present at every annual State Convention, with the exception of four....[and] was a member of the State Executive Board for over twenty years....In 1909 and 1910 she was in charge of the Suffrage Headquarters...and lived in New York [City], paying her own expenses as a contribution to the cause." Crossett also appeared before legislators in Albany in 1907, and submitted testimony to a Hearing before the United States Senate's Select Committee on Woman Suffrage, which took place in March of 1908.

Crossett's activities were not limited to fighting for the vote for women. Under her leadership, the Warsaw Political Equality Club was instrumental in seeing that women held positions on the local school board by 1893. She herself served as a school trustee for three years. Crossett was also instrumental in organizing the Warsaw Chapter of the Red Cross during the First World War. There, she chaired the committee that provided for a public town nurse. She later organized and was made honorary chair of the Women's Auxiliary of the Wyoming County Community Hospital. She was a member of the Buffalo chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Warsaw W.C.T.U., the Warsaw Grange, and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in Boston. She also served as a member of the County Republican Committee once the vote was won.



Ella Hawley Crossett died on December 2, 1925, shortly after suffering a stroke while visiting her daughter Carolyn in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Ella Hawley Crossett Memorial Nurses' Home of the Wyoming County Community Hospital was dedicated to her memory. Her name also appears among the eighty-one women's suffrage pioneers listed on a bronze memorial that was placed in the New York State Capitol in 1931.

Bibliography of Suggested Books & Articles

- ▶ Anthony, Mary B. to Mrs. Crossett, Letter, September 8, 1895.
- ▶ Anthony, Susan B. to Juliet S. Crossett, Letter, July 19, 1898.
- ▶ Anthony, Susan B. and Mary [written by Susan] to Ella Crossett, Letter, December 14, 1892. Typescript.
- ▶ Catt, Carrie Chapman to Ella Crossett. Ms. letter, New York, NY, Nov. 16, 1920. (University of Rochester Library)
- ▶ Crossett, Ella Hawley to Mrs. O.H.P. Belmont. Ms. letter, Warsaw, NY, June 19, 1909 (University of Rochester Library).
- ▶ "Ella Hawley Crossett," Warsaw, NY: *Western New Yorker*, December 10, 1925. (Typescript)
- ▶ Excerpts from letters, diaries, newspaper articles and minutes of the Warsaw Political Equality Club, 1891-1898. Typescript. Minutes are located in the Warsaw Historical Society Building, Warsaw, NY.
- ▶ Harper, Ida Husted, ed., *History of Woman Suffrage*, Susan B. Anthony and National American Woman Suffrage Association, publishers, 1902 - 1922. vols. IV, V, and VI.
- ▶ "Information taken from the pages in the autograph book of Juliet Crossett, daughter of Ella Hawley Crossett," 1891.

- ▶ Lind, Jean, "Ella Hawley Crossett," biographical sketch, July 1998, *Historical Wyoming*, Vol. 45, No. 1, Page 1.
- ▶ Mills, Harriet May, "Ella Hawley Crossett," *The Woman Citizen*, February 1926 (typescript).
- ▶ "Suffragists Elect Mrs. Crossett of Warsaw President," *The Buffalo Courier*, October 31, 1902. Newspaper article in University of Rochester Libraries.
- ▶ "Tributes to Mrs. [Ella Hawley] Crossett at the dedication of the Nurses Home in Warsaw, N. Y. Speakers: Dr. Thomson, Harriet May Mills [Vice-President at Large and then President of the New York State Woman Suffrage Association after Ella Hawley Crossett resigned]." 1927. Available at the University of Rochester.
- ▶ U.S. Senate, *Hearing Before the Select Committee on Woman Suffrage of the United States Senate*, Doc. No. 409, Washington, DC: GPO, 1908.
- ▶ Villard, Fanny Garrison, "Tribute to the Memory of Mrs. Crossett, December 29, 1925," typescript.
- ▶ Watrous, Hilda R. (The Capitol Commission) to Historian, Wyoming County, Letter, January 27, 1986. Available in the office of Wyoming County Historian, 26 Linwood Ave., Warsaw, NY.
- ▶ Photocopies of newspaper articles, source unidentified, pertaining to the marriage of Juliet Crossett and Carolyn Crossett.

"The Shortest Wedding Service on Record," Carolyn Crossett, married August 30, 1910, appeared in the *Democrat & Chronicle*, date unknown.

"An Equal Suffrage Wedding," Juliet Crossett, June 16, 1906.

"An Out Door Wedding," Juliet Crossett, June 16, 1906, *Western New Yorker*, Warsaw, Wyoming County, NY. June 22, 1906.

- ▶ There is also a short biography of EHC in Leonard, John William, ed., *Woman's Who's Who of America, 1914-1915*, NY: The American Commonwealth Co., c1914 (not consulted for this biography).

◀ Previous

Next ▶

[| About the Suffrage Movement](#) | [| Biographies & Images](#) | [| Timelines of Historic Events](#) |
[| Related Web Sites & Other Sources](#) | [| How to Use This Site](#) | [| Sign Our Guestbook](#) |
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Comments: webmaster@winningthevote.org

Preston Pierce
 Archivist cell phone #585-721-197
 Photo on CD

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS

Niagara County

Oct. 17th

9:30-12:00 - DV and Mental Health

Plenary speaker:

Molly Freyer, LCSW, Associate Director of Non-Residential Programs at Barrier Free Living in New York City

Panel discussion:

CHERYL BLACKLOCK

Executive Director, Mental Health Association in Niagara County

JOSEPH CLAYPOOLE

Resource Coordinator II, Lockport City Court Mental Health Court, Drug Court & Youth Court

TIMOTHY DEEKS

Clinical Services Director, Niagara County Department of Mental Health

JAMIE MARCOLINI

Resource Coordinator II, Niagara Falls City Court Mental Health Court & Drug Treatment Courts

WILLIAM PATTERSON

Mental Health Director, Dale Association

HONORABLE MARK A. VIOLANTE

Presiding Judge, Niagara Falls City Court Mental Health Court

HONORABLE WILLIAM J. WATSON

Presiding Judge, Lockport City Court Mental Health Court

DANA WODOWSKI

Victim Advocate, Niagara County IDV Court/YWCA of Niagara

1-4 PM - Ethics in DV Courts

Speaker: Roderick Quebral, of the NYS Attorney Grievance Committee

Genesee and Orleans Counties

Nov. 6 Supervised Visitation

Speakers, time and location TBA

Wyoming and Allegany Counties

DV and Children

Speaker: Rebecca Thomforde Hauser, Associate Director, DV Programs, CCI

Date and time TBA (but we're looking at **Oct. 28** -- waiting for confirmation)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS (cont'd.)

Hon. Thomas P. Brown and Hon. Michael F. Griffith will be speaking at a Conference held at Alfred University on October 30th, 2008. The tentative title of this conference is, "Collaboration in Action, Coordinated Services for Family and Youth". This conference is co-hosted between the New York State Unified Court System and Alfred University. The conference will run all day and both judges are a part of a plenary session in the afternoon to discuss the planning, implementation, impact and success of the Integrated Domestic Violence Court. Dr. Karen Porter of Alfred University and the office of the Hon. Wanita Bing-Newton have put forth a collaborative effort to bring this conference together.

*Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote
Gender Fairness in the Courts*

Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman

Judge, Court of Claims
140 Grand Street, 5th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
914-289-2310



LOCAL COMMITTEES 2008-2009

Name of the Committee:

Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts

Name and Title of Chair:

Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Judge, New York State Court of Claims

No. of Meeting: 4 **Average Attendance:** 20 **Video Conferencing:** No

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008:

Our committee joined the Gender Fairness Committee of Kings County in co-sponsoring an Elder Empowerment Conference held at the New York State Judicial Institute. The conference focused on domestic elder abuse as well as financial and medical issues of concern to seniors.

Activities for Women's History Month 2008:

The committee sponsored an essay contest open to all high school students in the Ninth Judicial District. The topic was:

The first woman was elected to Congress in 1916 and yet today, only a small percentage of the members of Congress are women and we still have not elected a woman President or Vice President. Why has this happened? How do you see this changing in your lifetime?

Local bar associations contributed to the cash prizes which will be awarded at a breakfast in the courthouse on April 24, 2009.

On March 11, 2009, we co-sponsored a CLE Program with the Pace Women's Justice Center entitled "Domestic Law and Domestic Violence/Child Protective Service Issues".

Other Activities in the Past Year:

In further recognition of Women's History Month, on May 4, 2008, the committee sponsored a breakfast in White Plains where Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman and Hon. Francis Nicolai, Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, presented the awards to the winners of the 2008 Essay Contest. The students and their families, along with school administrators, teachers, bar leaders, judges, attorneys and committee members, all joined in the event.

During the course of the year, we have had many distinguished guest speakers at our meetings. The

speakers included Hon. Anthony Scarpino, the Surrogate for Westchester County, who also serves as the Supervising Judge of the Matrimonial Part in Westchester; Michele Archer, the Director of Anti-Stalking Program, Safe Horizon; Lauren Wachtler, Esq., a member of the New York State Bar Association Gender Equity Task Force; Hon. Joan Posner, Family Court, Dutchess County; and Diane Whitter, LMSW, Associate Director of Supervised Visitation Program of Family Services, Inc.

Plans for Next Year:

We intend to co-sponsor a program with the Gender Fairness Committee of King County in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and will again sponsor a high school essay contest in celebration of Women's History Month.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Do you see unmet training needs?

I noted last year that it had been a long time since our last sensitivity training for judges. This year, we coordinated a presentation by Alice Chapman-Minutello, Director, Workforce Diversity Office, for the Ninth Judicial District judges. The program "Jeans, Jokes and Judicial Control . . . Facing Issues in the Courthouse," used various scenarios to highlight gender issues.

For Judicial Districts outside NYC, what are the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

Continuing oversight of the Family Court system is imperative. In addition to increased judicial resources, we should identify needed support services, such as mental health professionals.

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

Programming ideas.

OFF THE RECORD

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE COURT OF CLAIMS

P.O. BOX 7344, ALBANY, NY 12224

www.nyscourtofclaims.state.ny.us

May 2008 - Vol. 16, No. 3



Gender Fairness Committee Celebrates Women's History Month

The Ninth Judicial District to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts held a breakfast on May 2, 2008, to recognize the winners of its Annual Essay Contest in celebration of Women's History Month. Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, Hon. Francis Nicolai, and Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman presented the awards.

Students were asked to write on the topic, "New York State law mandates that public schools implement dress codes for students. The regulations adopted generally result in more limitations on the way females dress. Discuss any valid reasons for such restrictions. What impact do these codes have on student behavior both in school and the community, educational achievement, future success, freedom of expression and the image of women?" In the freshman/sophomore category,

Maxine Attobrah from Lincoln High School won First Prize, and Kelsea Starr from John Jay High School won Second Prize. In the junior/senior category, Harmon Siegel from Fox Lane High School won First Prize, and Marie Russell from Academy of Our Lady of Good Counsel won Second Prize.

The generosity of various professional organizations and bar associations enabled the committee to award cash prizes. The students read their essays to the 50 assembled guests. Members of the White Plains Court of Claims staff attended the breakfast. Hon. Thomas Scuccimarra, who also serves on the Gender Fairness Committee, was the "official photographer" for the event. The committee anticipates that this contest and awards breakfast will be held again next year and is hoping for even greater participation in the district.





WESTCHESTER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.wcbany.org

June 2008

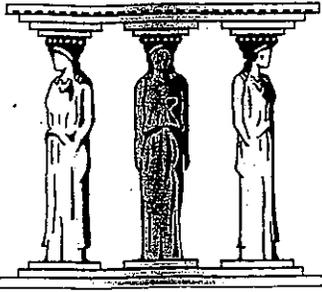
Gender Fairness Essayists



Pictured: Hon. Francis A. Nicolai, Marie Russell, Maxine Attobrah, Harmon Siegel, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman.

The Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts sponsors an annual essay contest for high school students. On May 2, this year's winners were honored.

Presenting the awards were Hon. Francis A. Nicolai and Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman. In the Freshman / Sophomore category, Maxine Attobrah from Lincoln High School won first place and Kelsea Starr from John Jay High School won second place. In the Junior / Senior category, first place was awarded to Harmon Siegel from Fox Lane High School and second place was awarded to Marie Russell from the Academy of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. ■



WWBA news

Westchester Women's Bar Association

December 2008

www.wwbany.org

9th Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee Essay Contest

The 9th Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee is headed by our own Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman. One of the yearly activities of the committee is to sponsor an essay contest for high school students in honor of Women's History Month. The questions are prepared by a sub-committee and meant to inspire high school classes to discuss various issues relating to gender.

The year's topic is tentative but will most likely be the following: The first woman was elected to Congress in 1916 and yet today, only a small percentage of the members of Congress are women and we still have not elected a woman President or Vice President. Why has this

happened? How do you see this changing in your lifetime?

Several bar associations donate funds so that prizes may be given to the winning students. Last year \$450 was given to the first place winner in each category (freshman sophomore and junior/senior). Prizes of \$250 were also given to the runners up in each category. **Please encourage your local high schools to participate in this contest.**

Previous Essay Topics have included:

■ What do you think the three most significant forces shaping families will be in the next 25 years?

■ Are boys and girls treated equitably in schools? Discuss.

■ What do you think the courts' role should be in promoting gender fairness in society?

■ Discuss how the events of September 11, 2001 have heightened your awareness of the role of women in the United States and throughout the world.

■ What role should women play in military conflict?

■ Recently, the U.S. Education Department issued controversial new rules which allow public school districts to create single-sex schools and classes as long as enrollment is voluntary. What effect, if any, would pursuing single-sex schools and classes have on encouraging or discouraging gender bias?

■ New York State law mandates that public schools implement dress codes for students. The regulations adopted generally result in more limitations on the way females dress. Discuss any valid reasons for such restrictions. What impact do these codes have on student behavior both in school and the community, educational achievement, future success, freedom of expression and the image of women?

You may contact Debbie Sellas (914) 289-2310 or dsellas@courts.state.ny.us. This is a prestigious award and will make an impressive addition to any student's resume, not to mention inspiring discussion of the issues dear to the hearts of WWBA members. ▶

NEW YORK UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM



**PRESENTATION TO
9th JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGES**

**JEANS, JOKES AND JUDICIAL CONTROL.....
FACING ISSUES IN THE COURT HOUSE**

**Francis Nicolai
Administrative Judge
9th Judicial District
(914) 824-5100**

**Alice M. Chapman-Minutello
Director, Workforce Diversity Office
(212) 428-2540**

**Office of Court Administration
25 Beaver Street
New York, NY 10004**



THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEES
OF KINGS COUNTY SUPREME & FAMILY COURTS
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NYS JUDICIAL INSTITUTE
PRESENTS IN RECOGNITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH 2008

Elder Empowerment Conference

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2008

New York State Judicial Institute
at Pace University
84 North Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603
(914) 824-5800
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST &
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Co-Sponsored By:

Brooklyn Family Justice Center

Brooklyn Borough President's Office

Jewish Association for Services
for the Aged (JASA)

Kings County Clerk's Office

Kings County District Attorney's Office

Kings County Supreme & Family Courts

Ninth Judicial District Committee to
Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts

NYC Department for the Aging

Directions By Car

Take I-278 E/B.Q.E. ramp to the Triboro Bridge
Take exit 47 for Major Deegan/I-87 N toward Albany

Take exit B onto Cross Westchester Express
towards White Plains

Take exit 6 for RI-22 towards
White Plains/N White Plains

Turn right at N Broadway

By Metro North RR

From Grand Central Station

Board MTA Metro North Harlem Line To
White Plains Station

Go to White Plains Transfer Center, Lane C for
1 Bus/Stanford Express to Main & Broadway

Seniors often appear as soft targets for criminals, falling prey to those who may cruelly take advantage of them. Older Americans have the right to live safely with dignity, independence and without abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Conference Sessions:

Surrogate Court, Wills, Trusts and Estates

Surrogate Diana A. Johnson
Surrogate Margarita Lopez-Torres

Domestic Elder Abuse

Arlene M. Markarian, Esq.
Chief, Elder Abuse Unit – Kings County District Attorney

Article 81 / Guardianships

Justice Betsy Barros
Supreme Court Kings County

Financial Exploitation, Real Property Theft & Scams

Donna Dougherty, Esq.
Jewish Association for Services for the Aged (JASA)

Internet Security & Identity Theft

Frank Laghezza, Esq.
Assistant to the District Attorney, Kings County

Medical Issues Concerning the Elderly

Joseph J. Tartaglia MD, FACC

Guest Speaker: Adelaide Sanford - NYS Regent (retired)

Luncheon Speaker: Senator Velmanette Montgomery

Please call 447-296-1584
no later than Oct. 15th
to confirm your attendance.

Discussion Panel

- ~ Prof. Ann Goldweber - St. John's University School of Law
- ~ Comm. Mae Carpenter - Westchester County Department for the Aged
- ~ Judith McCarthy, Esq. - NYS Office of the Attorney General
- ~ NYC Department for the Aging Representative

Conference Moderator:

Justice Gloria M. Dabiri

Supreme Court Kings County - Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

This conference is designed for seniors, service providers and advocates.
We are asking senior citizen centers to send staff and seniors
as delegates to represent your facility.

**PACE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
PACE WOMEN'S JUSTICE CENTER
NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE
GENDER FAIRNESS IN THE COURTS AND
THE WESTCHESTER WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION**

PRESENT:

**DIVORCE LAW AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES ISSUES**

Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2009
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Place: Pace Law School Moot Court Room
78 North Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603
Cost: See attached Registration Form.
CLE Credit: 3 Practice Credits

Speakers:

**Tamara A. Mitchel, Esq., Partner
Berman, Bavero, Frucco & Gouz**

**Laurence J. Braunstein, Esq., Partner
Braunstein & Zuckerman**

To register or for more information please visit
www.law.pace.edu/cle or
Call Linda Maccarrone at the Pace Law School Center for
Continuing Legal Education (914) 422-4062

Divorce Law and Domestic Violence/Child Protective Services Issues

Wednesday, March 11, 6:00 –9:00 p.m

Faculty: **Tamara A. Mitchel, Esq.**, Partner, Berman, Bavero, Frucco & Gouz, White Plains;
Laurence J. Braunstein, Esq., Partner, Braunstein & Zuckerman, White Plains

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Business Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Please note that this is the second half of a two part Program on Divorce Law. The first part of the Program will be held on March 4th at the same time and location. Please visit www.law.pace.edu/cle for the full spring 2009 CLE schedule.

Fees:

General Fee:

March 4th or 11th \$125.00
March 4th & 11th \$175.00

Alumni Fee:

March 4th or 11th \$100.00
March 4th and 11th \$155.00

PaceBridge Members: Annual membership entitles individual to attend all programs for one year without additional payment. Special Professional Development Events are not included in the PaceBridge Membership. General membership -- \$475.00/Alumni -- \$395.00.

Moderate Means Panel Attorneys: Members of the Pace Women's Justice Center Moderate Means Panel can attend for free provided they accept two clients during the period from March 2009 through March 2011.

Make check payable to Pace CCLE. Enclosed payment: \$ _____

AMEX/Discover/Master Card # _____ Exp _____

Cardholder's signature _____

Return form and payment to Linda Maccarrone, Pace CCLE, 78 North Broadway, White Plains, New York 10603 or fax your credit card registration to: 914-422-4039.

OFF THE RECORD

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE COURT OF CLAIMS
P.O. BOX 7344, ALBANY, NY 12224

www.nyscourtofclaims.state.ny.us
May 2008 - Vol. 16, No. 3



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L-R: Hon. Francis Nicolai, Marie Russell, Maxine Attobrah, Harmon Siegel, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman



WESTCHESTER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.wcbany.org

June 2008

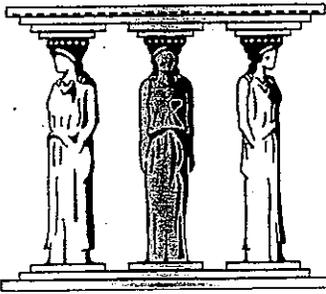
Gender Fairness Essayists



Pictured: Hon. Francis A. Nicolai, Marie Russell, Maxine Attobrah, Harmon Siegel, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman.

The Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts sponsors an annual essay contest for high school students. On May 2, this year's winners were honored.

Presenting the awards were Hon. Francis A. Nicolai and Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman. In the Freshman / Sophomore category, Maxine Attobrah from Lincoln High School won first place and Kelsea Starr from John Jay High School won second place. In the Junior / Senior category, first place was awarded to Harmon Siegel from Fox Lane High School and second place was awarded to Marie Russell from the Academy of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. ■



WWBA news

Westchester Women's Bar Association

December 2008

www.wwbany.org

9th Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee Essay Contest

The 9th Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee is headed by our own Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman. One of the yearly activities of the committee is to sponsor an essay contest for high school students in honor of Women's History Month. The questions are prepared by a sub-committee and meant to inspire high school classes to discuss various issues relating to gender.

The year's topic is tentative but will most likely be the following: The first woman was elected to Congress in 1916 and yet today, only a small percentage of the members of Congress are women and we still have not elected a woman President or Vice President. Why has this

happened? How do you see this changing in your lifetime?

Several bar associations donate funds so that prizes may be given to the winning students. Last year \$450 was given to the first place winner in each category (freshman sophomore and junior/senior). Prizes of \$250 were also given to the runners up in each category.

Please encourage your local high schools to participate in this contest.

Previous Essay Topics have included:

■ What do you think the three most significant forces shaping families will be in the next 25 years?

■ Are boys and girls treated equitably in schools? Discuss.

■ What do you think the courts' role should be in promoting gender fairness in society?

■ Discuss how the events of September 11, 2001 have heightened your awareness of the role of women in the United States and throughout the world.

■ What role should women play in military conflict?

■ Recently, the U.S. Education Department issued controversial new rules which allow public school districts to create single-sex schools and classes as long as enrollment is voluntary. What effect, if any, would pursuing single-sex schools and classes have on encouraging or discouraging gender bias?

■ New York State law mandates that public schools implement dress codes for students. The regulations adopted generally result in more limitations on the way females dress. Discuss any valid reasons for such restrictions. What impact do these codes have on student behavior both in school and the community, educational achievement, future success, freedom of expression and the image of women?

You may contact Debbie Sellas (914) 289-2310 or dsellas@courts.state.ny.us. This is a prestigious award and will make an impressive addition to any student's resume, not to mention inspiring discussion of the issues dear to the hearts of WWBA members. ■

NEW YORK UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM



**PRESENTATION TO
9th JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGES**

**JEANS, JOKES AND JUDICIAL CONTROL.....
FACING ISSUES IN THE COURT HOUSE**

**Francis Nicolai
Administrative Judge
9th Judicial District
(914) 824-5100**

**Alice M. Chapman-Minutello
Director, Workforce Diversity Office
(212) 428-2540**

**Office of Court Administration
25 Beaver Street
New York, NY 10004**



THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEES
OF KINGS COUNTY SUPREME & FAMILY COURTS
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NYS JUDICIAL INSTITUTE
PRESENTS IN RECOGNITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH 2008

Elder Empowerment Conference

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2008

New York State Judicial Institute
at Pace University
84 North Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603
(914) 824-5800
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST &
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Co-Sponsored By:

Brooklyn Family Justice Center
Brooklyn Borough President's Office
Jewish Association for Services
for the Aged (JASA)
Kings County Clerk's Office
Kings County District Attorney's Office
Kings County Supreme & Family Courts
Ninth Judicial District Committee to
Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts
NYC Department for the Aging

Directions By Car

Take I-278 E/B.Q.E. ramp to the Triboro Bridge
Take exit 47 for Major Deegan/I-87 N toward Albany
Take exit 8 onto Cross Westchester Expy
towards White Plains
Take exit 6 for RT-22 towards
White Plains/N White Plains
Turn right at N Broadway

By Metro-North RR.

From Grand Central Station
Board MTA Metro-North Harlem Line To
White Plains Station
Go to White Plains Transcenter. Lane C for
I-Bus/Stamford Express to Main & Broadway

Seniors often appear as soft targets for criminals, falling prey to those who may cruelly take advantage of them. Older Americans have the right to live safely with dignity, independence and without abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Conference Sessions:

Surrogate Court, Wills, Trusts and Estates

Surrogate Diana A. Johnson
Surrogate Margarita Lopez-Torres

Domestic Elder Abuse

Arlene M. Markarian, Esq.
Chief, Elder Abuse Unit – Kings County District Attorney

Article 81 / Guardianships

Justice Betsy Barros
Supreme Court Kings County

Financial Exploitation, Real Property Theft & Scams

Donna Dougherty, Esq.
Jewish Association for Services for the Aged (JASA)

Internet Security & Identity Theft

Frank Laghezza, Esq.
Assistant to the District Attorney, Kings County

Medical Issues Concerning the Elderly

Joseph J. Tartaglia MD, FACC

Guest Speaker: Adelaide Sanford - NYS Regent (retired)

Luncheon Speaker: Senator Velmanette Montgomery

Please call 347-296-1581,
no later than Oct. 15th
to confirm your attendance.

Discussion Panel

- ~ Prof. Ann Goldweber - St. John's University School of Law
- ~ Comm. Mae Carpenter - Westchester County Department for the Aged
- ~ Judith McCarthy, Esq.- NYS Office of the Attorney General
- ~ NYC Department for the Aging Representative

Conference Moderator:

Justice Gloria M. Dabiri

Supreme Court Kings County - Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

This conference is designed for seniors, service providers and advocates.
We are asking senior citizen centers to send staff and seniors
as delegates to represent your facility.

**PACE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
PACE WOMEN'S JUSTICE CENTER
NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE
GENDER FAIRNESS IN THE COURTS AND
THE WESTCHESTER WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION**

PRESENT:

**DIVORCE LAW AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES ISSUES**

Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2009
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Place: Pace Law School Moot Court Room
78 North Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603
Cost: See attached Registration Form.
CLE Credit: 3 Practice Credits

Speakers:

**Tamara A. Mitchel, Esq., Partner
Berman, Bavero, Frucco & Gouz**

**Laurence J. Braunstein, Esq., Partner
Braunstein & Zuckerman**

**To register or for more information please visit
www.law.pace.edu/cle or
Call Linda Maccarrone at the Pace Law School Center for
Continuing Legal Education (914) 422-4062**

Divorce Law and Domestic Violence/Child Protective Services Issues

Wednesday, March 11, 6:00 –9:00 p.m

Faculty: **Tamara A. Mitchel, Esq.**, Partner, Berman, Bavero, Frucco & Gouz, White Plains;
Laurence J. Braunstein, Esq., Partner, Braunstein & Zuckerman, White Plains

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Business Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Please note that this is the second half of a two part Program on Divorce Law. The first part of the Program will be held on March 4th at the same time and location. Please visit www.law.pace.edu/cle for the full spring 2009 CLE schedule.

Fees:

General Fee:

March 4th or 11th \$125.00

March 4th & 11th \$175.00

Alumni Fee:

March 4th or 11th \$100.00

March 4th and 11th \$155.00

PaceBridge Members: Annual membership entitles individual to attend all programs for one year without additional payment. Special Professional Development Events are not included in the PaceBridge Membership. General membership -- \$475.00/Alumni -- \$395.00.

Moderate Means Panel Attorneys: Members of the Pace Women's Justice Center Moderate Means Panel can attend for free provided they accept two clients during the period from March 2009 through March 2011.

Make check payable to Pace CCLE. Enclosed payment: \$ _____

AMEX/Discover/Master Card # _____ Exp _____

Cardholder's signature _____

Return form and payment to Linda Maccarrone, Pace CCLE, 78 North Broadway, White Plains, New York 10603 or fax your credit card registration to: 914-422-4039.

Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee

Martha M. Rogers, Esq.

Deputy Chief Clerk, Suffolk County Court
Arthur M. Cromarty Court Complex
210 Center Drive
Riverhead, New York 11901
631-852-2120

Lynn C. Fullshire

Principal Law Librarian
Supreme Court Law Library
Arthur M. Cromarty Court Complex
220 Center Drive - 1st Floor
Riverhead, New York 11901
631-852-2418



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee

Suffolk County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

Name and Title of Chair

Lynn C. Fullshire, Co-Chair and Martha M. Rogers, Co-Chair

Members

List attached.

Dates of Meetings

September 17, 2008	October 15, 2008
November 18, 2008	January 22, 2009
April 15, 2009	May 13, 2009
June 5 or 12, 2009	

Average Attendance 24

Do you use Video Conferencing? No

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008

Fair Access to Family Court law Program for Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Suffolk's Women in the Courts Committee, in conjunction with the Suffolk County Academy of Law, sponsored a program examining the Fair Access to Family Court law as it expands access to civil orders of protection to intimate partners, including dating couples, same sex couples, and teen-age couples. This program was held on October 20, 2008 at 5:30 PM at the Suffolk County Bar Association, and included a light supper thanks to the generosity of the Academy of Law. Attendance for court personnel and one member from each outreach and government agency was free, with additional members of outside organizations required to pay the \$25.00 registration fee. If desired, three CLE credits were available for a reduced rate of \$50.00. This program was chaired by Margaret M. Robinson, Resource Coordinator III in the Integrated Domestic Violence Part, Suffolk County Supreme Court

We also had an early Domestic Violence program theme for our September meeting:

Kerry Herzog, Deputy Bureau Chief of the Child Abuse & Domestic Violence Bureau, Suffolk County District Attorney's Office spoke about the DA's role in domestic violence prosecutions. Kerry gave a history of how and why the domestic violence unit was formed, how staff are selected, and the integration of all courts in handling a domestic violence case. The District Attorney provides significant victim contact within the first three days of an incident. Interesting, but not surprising, is the reluctance of a victim to follow up on the prosecution of his or her abuser. A copy of the new Family Court Act was distributed.

Activities for Women's History Month 2009

In celebration of Women's History Month, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee cosponsored an educational breakfast with the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association. Due to various and unavoidable problems, the Committee was unable to present its planned March program, which has been rescheduled for June, when we plan to offer an event/exhibit honoring the accomplishments of women from throughout New York State who have left an indelible mark on the court system.

These "First Ladies of New York" will be honored with a charcoal sketch gallery of portraits displayed on the main floor of the courthouse in Central Islip, each with a recorded message from one of their speeches or cases; a youth choir from a local school; the court Honor Guard procession; a dramatic reading by District Court Judge Gaetan B. Lozito, a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts; and concluding with a reception. It is our hope that the Hon. A. Gail Prudenti and the Hon. Judith Kaye will be available to attend and participate in this celebration.

The following "First Ladies of New York" to be honored are:

Hon. Judith Kaye - First woman on New York State Court of Appeals; First woman Chief Judge of New York Court of Appeals.

Hon. A. Gail Prudenti - First woman Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, 2nd Dept.

Hon. Ruth Bader Ginsburg - First New York woman on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Kate Stoneman (1841-1924) - First woman to pass the NY Bar and be admitted to practice law in NY State.

Hon. Syrena Stackpole - (1888-1983) - First woman elected to public office in NY State (Riverhead Town Justice) and first female member of the Suffolk County Bar Association.

Hon. Birdie Amsterdam - (1901-1996) - First woman elected to the New York Supreme Court in NY State.

Hon. Jane M. Bolin (1908-2007) - First African-American woman judge in both NY State and the United States.

Charlotte Smallwood, (19023 -) - First female District Attorney elected in NY State.

Activities for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2008

Working in partnership with the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee sponsored a County-wide courthouse alert to raise awareness on breast cancer issues. On October 15th and 23rd, 2009, two separate events were held at courthouse locations in Central Islip and in Riverhead. Volunteers distributed materials

provided by the American Cancer Society and the National Institute of Health. The events were scheduled to coincide with the Court's busiest days. Literally hundreds of people, including nearly 300 Grand Jurors, received this important information.

October's Meeting Theme: Guardianship - Kathy Leppla, Case Management Coordinator in charge of the Guardianship Part, discussed the process of securing a guardian appointment. There are property guardians and personal guardians. The Supreme Court examiners monitor the guardians and submit annual reports for review. Kathy stressed the importance of securing a power of attorney, health care proxy and having a hospital advocate in place to avoid having a guardian appointed. Judge Sandra Sgroi also spoke on the work performed by this specialized section.

November's Meeting Theme: Electronic Monitoring of Sex Offenders - Ed Langan, Principal Probation Officer, described the electronic monitoring unit in regards to the monitoring of sex offenders. The offenders are monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by the Probation Department. There are presently 60 individuals in Suffolk County being monitored by G.P.S. There are a total of 12,000 individuals on probation in Suffolk, 50% of which are sex offenders. These 6,000 sex offenders on probation consist of a combination of levels one, two, and three. While being monitored, the offenders are encouraged to engage in positive activities such as employment and therapy. They are constantly monitored and will be subject to intervention if they stray from their schedules or wander into "red zones" (schools, day care centers, etc.) The individuals are usually monitored for six months. The cost to monitor these individuals is \$40.00 per day as opposed to \$250.00 per day for incarceration. Committee members were able to watch an actual on-screen display tracking a probationer as he/she moved about an area of the county as Officers Langan and Maddox explained how the system worked and answered our questions.

Activities for American Heart Month 2009

On February 2, 2009, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee sponsored County-wide courthouse events to promote heart health in the Riverhead and Central Islip court centers. Cardiovascular diseases are our nation's top killer. To promote heart health, Committee volunteers in both locations distributed educational materials. A special feature of the event, was the presence of registered nurses from Stony Brook University Medical Center, who provided free blood pressure screenings to anyone who wished to participate.

Project Assist

Throughout the year, Committee members work on Project Assist, a program which focuses in large part upon domestic violence and distributes pamphlets, agency materials and health care information within the court system. Wherever possible, Spanish translations are also made available. All new materials are reviewed prior to distribution to designated information consoles in Suffolk County courthouses.



HONORABLE H. PATRICK LEIS III

AND

SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE

PRESENT

HEART HEALTH - 2009



MONDAY - FEBRUARY 2, 2009

CENTRAL ISLIP

JOHN P. COHALAN COURT COMPLEX

SECOND FLOOR * MEZZANINE

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

RIVERHEAD

ARTHUR M. CROMARTY CRIMINAL COURT BUILDING

FIRST FLOOR * LOBBY

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Available on a "Come 1" Served Basis

Courtesy of Stony Brook University Hospital

FREE HEART HEALTH LITERATURE AND MATERIALS

On February 2nd Stop By & Wear Red To Show You "Have A Heart"



Children's Center

Throughout the year, members of the Committee participate and support the work of the courthouse child care center in Central Islip. Members regularly participate in mitten drives and in the annual Bagels and Books event that collects new books for children.

What are your plans for next year?

In late June, the Committee will be convening for "Sub-Committee Day" to plan events for the 2009-2010 calendar, and so that next year's Committee Chairs will have sub-committees in place for fall events. Based on the past success of the heart health event and the breast cancer alert, it is likely that these two annual events will be continued. The March 2010 Women's History Month celebration will most likely be the focal point of next year's activities with the specific project yet to be determined.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important this year?

The issues of domestic violence and representation in matrimonial cases continue to be at the forefront of women's issues in the court system.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Do you see unmet training needs?

There is a real need for increased pro bono representation. Cases of domestic violence, abuse and neglect are continuing to increase in Suffolk County. Litigants, mostly women, without financial resources to obtain counsel become lost in the process. The number of foreclosures in Suffolk tops the state, and only adds to the burden for women facing eviction without legal resources. The loss of income spirals into other aspects of their lives, including the ability to pay rent and feed and support their families. At present, the waiting list for Nassau/Suffolk Law Services representation in matrimonial matters is one year.

What do you see as the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

1. The need for pro bono legal representation
2. The need for programs and resources to teach parenting skills
3. The need to address mental health issues and provide mental health services for children in Family Court. In Suffolk County, there are not enough facilities and beds for these individuals. The school system is not equipped to handle this problem.

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

The Suffolk County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts would welcome the opportunity to work with the NYS Committee to launch an innovative program to address the problems outlined above. The issues faced by litigants in Family Court need a long term solution.

SUFFOLK WIC

Name: Ave Maria Thompson

Department:

Title:

Name: Barbara Mehrman

Department: Career Services

Title: 225 Eastview Dr. #111 Central Islip, 11722

Name: Barbara Nieroda

Department:

Title:

Name: Beverly Saldivias

Department: Matrimonial

Title:

Name: Caroline Levy

Department:

Title:

Name: Carrie Vasiluth

Department:

Title:

Name: Catherine Cicchelli

Department: DAJ's Office

Title:

Name: Cathy Petersen

Department: Appellate Division, 2nd Department

Title:

Name: Cheryl Zimmer

Department: Judge Leis's Chambers

Title:

Name: Chris Pashoukos

Department: Security

Title:

Name: Colleen Fondulis

Department: DAJ'S Office

Title:

Name: Donna Murnane
Department: IDV
Title:

Name: Eileen Doyle
Department:
Title:

Name: Emily DeGregorio
Department: Law Library
Title:

Name: Frederick Crockett
Department: Matrimonial Notes of Issue
Title:

Name: Hon. Chris Kelley
Department: D65
Title:

Name: Hon. Daniel Loughlin
Department:
Title:

Name: Hon. Deborah Kooperstein
Department:
Title:

Name: Hon. Gaetan Lozito
Department: District Court
Title:

Name: Hon. Hertha Trotto
Department:
Title:

Name: Hon. Joan Genchi
Department: Part 7
Title:

Name: Hon. Patricia Filiberto
Department: Chambers
Title:

Name: Hon. Sandra Sgroi
Department: Chambers
Title:

Name: Hon. Theresa Whelan
Department: PART 5
Title:

Name: Hon. Toni Bean
Department:
Title:

Name: Hordy, Maureen
Department: 2072
Title:

Name: Isabel Buse
Department: Support Magistrate
Title:

Name: Jane Vecchione
Department:
Title:

Name: Janet Gogel
Department: Chambers
Title:

Name: Katherine Logiudice
Department: Chambers
Title:

Name: Kathleen Leppla
Department: Guardianship
Title:

Name: Kristen Bucaria
Department: Model Guardianship
Title:

Name: Leslie D. McLoughlin
Department: Domestic Violence
Title:

Name: Linda O'Donohoe
Department:
Title:

Name: Lisa St. Rose
Department: Support Magistrate
Title:

Name: Lorraine Santoianni
Department: Matrimonial Dept
Title:

Name: Lynn Fullshire
Department: Suffolk Law Library/Riverhead
Title:

Name: Margaret Robinson
Department: IDV Part
Title:

Name: Martha Rogers
Department:
Title:

Name: Patricia Anton
Department:
Title:

Name: Renee Lazer
Department:
Title:

Name: Ruth Ann DiLena
Department: Law Dept
Title:

Name: Sue Fox
Department: Part Clerks Office D254
Title:

Name: Victor Rossomano
Department: Chief Clerk's Office
Title:

Joan-Thérèse Hudson (retired)
Suffolk County Women's Services

Hon. Mary M. Werner (retired)
Suffolk District Admin. Judge

Hon. Ann Mead (retired)
Suffolk District Court Judge

NYC Family Court Justice on Wheels

Hon. Helen Sturm

New York City Family Court
60 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10013
646-386-5119



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee

Justice on Wheels

Name and Title of Chair

Helen C. Sturm

Members - would you attach a list of your members?

The members are attorneys, physicians, and business women

Interested in providing services to Family Court litigants.

Dates of Meetings

Generally, once a month

Average Attendance

The number of attendees varies, depending on the audience I am addressing

Do you use of Video Conferencing?

It is not applicable to the format

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008

The meetings are scheduled all during the year

Activities for Women's History Month 2009

Other Activities in the Past Year

During my tenure as a Family Court Judge, I have been extremely concerned about the lack of services for litigants in general, and children in particular. To that end I have developed contacts which will provide services such as drug, domestic violence, and educational counseling, as well as medical services when appropriate to adolescents between the ages of 10-21.

What are your plans for next year?

Attempt to develop more resources and compile a comprehensive list of services that are available.

Address groups of professionals to educate them on the Family Court process and work to develop additional services.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important this year?

The current economy has significantly increased the number of filings for downward modifications in support matters.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Do you see unmet training needs?

The inability of the courts to provide needed and appropriate services to families has a profound impact on the ability of the court to serve the needs of families.

What do you see as the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

Please see above

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

Assistant in identifying areas of need, such as supervised visitation programs, alcohol and drug abuse, and domestic violence and assisting in developing programs to address the issues.

Please return this form by April 3, 2009, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts,
25 Beaver St., Rm 878, New York, NY 10004, 212-428-2793 (Fax)
jgoodman@Courts.state.ny.us



Women in the Courts/Gender Fairness Committee

Civil Court, County of Queens



The Women in the Courts/Gender Fairness Committee
of the Civil Court of the City of New York, County of Queens

A Brief Outline of the meetings that were held at Queens Civil Court:

April 29, 2008 - Debt Collection - Learn what to do when the collection agency calls!

April Newbauer, Attorney-In-Charge with the Legal Aid Society, Queens Civil Practice, was our guest speaker on the topic of debt collection, and consumer debt cases in Civil Court. She gave us information on dealing with credit card debt and in particular how it affects elderly persons, single parents, persons with low-level English proficiency, and low-income persons. She provided us with information concerning the most frequently asked questions on consumer issues and debt.

At Queens Civil Court we also have the Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office (CLARO) which opened on January 25, 2008. CLARO is a legal advice clinic for people representing themselves in consumer debt cases. CLARO is staffed by pro bono volunteer attorneys from the Queens County Bar Association's Volunteer Lawyers Project and by students from St. John's University School of Law.

September 17th & 18th, 2008 - The New York State Unified Court System's Work/Life Assistance Program.

We held four 1 hour sessions over two days. Representatives from Corporate Counseling conducted a power point presentation as well as a question and answer session. This is a voluntary, free and confidential benefit available to all employees. Their services include: assistance with mental and emotional stress; family issues, alcohol and substance abuse; legal and financial matters; work related concerns, child and adult care; and much more. They will conduct research and make referrals for employees with their medical coverage, if necessary.

October 30, 2008 - Domestic Violence - Not For Women Only - Safe Horizon Addresses Stalking: The Use of Technology in Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking. Michelle Archer, Director of Anti-Stalking Program at Safe Horizon is our Guest Speaker.

This meeting was organized to educate, inform, and assist our employees, attorneys, and judges in recognizing what stalking is, how to deal with it, and the various organizations and programs available to help victims of stalking. Our committee chose this topic and organization to bring attention to all the issues confronting victims of stalking during Domestic Violence Month in October.



*Gender Fairness Committee of the
Criminal Court of the City of New York*

Hon. Toko Serito
Kings County Criminal Court
120 Schermerhorn St.
Brooklyn, NY 11201
347-404-9473



**Citywide Gender Fairness Committee
Criminal Court of the City of NY
2008-2009**

Name of the Committee

Citywide Gender Fairness Committee
Criminal Court of the City of NY
("Citywide GFC")

Name and Title of Citywide Chair

Judge Toko Serita

Members

The Citywide GFC is composed of three subcommittees - one in each county for Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn (see attached reports from each subcommittee):

Brooklyn GFC chair: Judge Ruth Smith

Queens GFC chairs: Judges Mary O'Donoghue & Toko Serita

Manhattan GFC chair: Judge Rita Mella

No. of Members

Brooklyn - 10

Queens - 10

Manhattan - 6

Total = 26

No. of Meetings

7 citywide videoconferencing meetings

2 citywide "Meet & Greet" social gatherings

plus 3+ local subcommittee meetings (see attached reports from each county)

Composition

Judges, court attorneys, administrators, clerks, officers, interpreters, defense bar and prosecution, men & women.

Activities

(For each county subcommittee activities, see individual reports attached)

Activities of the Citywide Comm 2008 - 2009

The Citywide GFC has made significant strides in the past year and has succeeded in accomplishing its objectives for the year. During the first year of its existence as a *citywide* committee, the emphasis was on developing and strengthening each of the local subcommittees so that it could function independently on its own, though with the recognition that it was part of a larger entity (see last year's Annual Report). Thereafter, late last year, the citywide GFC agreed upon a joint effort focusing on the issue of teen dating violence in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October & November of 2008. This effort was spearheaded by Judge Tanya Kennedy who, at the time, was in Manhattan Criminal Court. The project entailed each county sponsoring two separate events on this topic, with some subcommittees partnering with local high schools by either inviting them to a program in the courthouse or by visiting their schools in conjunction with other organizations involved in this work. Doing this project helped realize several of our goals as a committee, including the following:

- ◆ Becoming more unified as a committee by working on common issues. This was the first time that each of the subcommittees engaged in a joint project together and it illustrated the success of our model by allowing us to serve the needs of our respective communities while engaging in a joint cross-county collaboration that enabled us to work toward common themes for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. We created a steering committee responsible for overseeing our six separate presentations for DV Awareness Month.
- ◆ Developing relationships with our communities. Our citywide project for DV Awareness Month also exemplified our commitment to developing ties between criminal court and the various communities it serves as well as bringing the work of other organizations to different audiences in the courthouse (or to other locations). For example, the citywide GFC reached out to two different high schools as part of this project, Murray Bergtraum High School in Manhattan, and Pacific High School in Brooklyn, so that we could expose students to criminal

court as well as to issues surrounding teen dating violence, and by so doing, provide a service to the community. We also co-sponsored these events with the New York Women's Bar Association and the Queens County Women's Bar Association. Additionally, we invited several organizations to do these presentations for court-staff, attorneys, service providers and students, such as the NYC Mayor's Office to Combat DV, the NYC Healthy Relationship Training Academy, Day One, and Men Can Stop Rape Now. We feel that this citywide project embodies many of our concerns with respect to forging ties with our various communities, raising awareness around issues concerning gender discrimination, and providing a forum to enhance gender equality in the court system.

Other notable developments

- ◆ Our collective identity as a citywide committee has been strengthened by our ability to use technological resources such as videoconferencing capability to meet regularly. Thus, in addition to our local committee meetings, we have had 7 citywide videoconferencing meetings throughout the past year in which all members were invited to attend. We have also had two "Meet & Greet" functions within the past year, bringing together members from all three counties for an opportunity to meet and get to know one another better (this was the first time that some members from other counties met each other off screen).
- ◆ Mission Statement. It was strongly felt by members of the citywide GFC that a mission statement was important to solidify our identity and to provide coherence for our local and collective work. A mission statement subcommittee was formed, chaired by Judge Rita Mella and the following mission statement was recently approved by the entire comm. It states the following:

The New York City Criminal Court Gender Fairness committee seeks to promote the ideal of gender equality. Our mission is to consider, raise awareness and address issues which relate to gender and which have a bearing on work, wellness, justice, and human dignity. The committee believes in the strong and equal participation of everyone, without regard to gender, in all sectors of the Criminal Court.

**Gender Fairness Committee
Brooklyn Criminal Court Subcommittee
2008-2009**

Name of Committee

Gender Fairness Committee
Criminal Court of the City of New York
Brooklyn Subcommittee
("Bklyn GFC")

Name and Title of Chair

Judge Ruth Smith

Number of Members

10

Number of Meetings

4 local plus 7 City-wide Meetings = 11

Composition

Judges, clerks, attorneys, administrators and court officers

Average Attendance

5

Activities

- ◆ "Dating Violence Prevention and Healthy Relationships" Parts I and II
Pacific High School, Brooklyn
October 6, 2008 & October 8, 2008
Presenter: Kristen deFur, MPH,
NYC Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence, Healthy Relationship Training
Academy

- ◆ "Sexual and Dating Violence Among Youth"
Brooklyn Criminal Court
November 2008
Presenters: Eric Pliner, Director, Research and Resource Center of the New
York City Department of Education; Meghan O'Connor, Director of Programs for
the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault

As part of a three-part series on Domestic Violence Awareness, particularly with respect to young people, the committee presented a program focused on the results of a study on sexual and dating violence conducted by the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault and the Columbia Center for Youth Violence Prevention in four New York City

high schools. The presenters, including a representative from the Research and Resource Center of the New York City Department of Education, discussed school-based initiatives to address sexual and dating violence. This was preceded in early October, 2008 by a two-day interactive presentation at Pacific High School by members of the New York City Healthy Relationship Training Academy on the dynamics of abusive relationships and the characteristics of healthy relationships.

Additional Activities

- ◆ In January 2009, Committee member Harolyn Baker facilitated the commencement of classes in Low Impact Aerobics, Yoga, Pilates and Light Weight training by a Certified Group Exercise Instructor during twice-weekly luncheon classes.

Proposed Activities in 2009

- ◆ The next major presentation is proposed for May 2009 on trans-gender issues within the criminal justice system, with speakers from the Sylvia Rivera Law Project and the Positive Health Project.

**NYC Criminal Court Gender Fairness Committee
Queens County Subcommittee
2008-2009**

Name of the Committee

Queens County Gender Fairness Committee
Criminal Court of the City of New York

Name and Title of Chair

Judges Toko Serita & Mary O'Donoghue

No. of Members:

10

No. of Meetings:

11 Total, including 4 local subcomm. mtgs, 7 citywide videoconferencing meetings, 2 citywide "Meet & Greet" meetings, and 1 local "Meet & Greet"

Average Attendance:

5-10

Composition:

There are ten members representing the bench, the defense bar, the DA's office, clerks, and court officers.

Activities for 2008-2009:

General Overview

2008 represented a productive year for the Queens subcommittee. We were able to strengthen our focus as a group, sponsored our first programs in Queens Criminal Court in the fall of 2008 for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and in doing so, established ourselves as a viable presence in the courthouse community. We also worked in conjunction with the subcommittees from the other counties to organize similarly themed events on a local level but with a broad citywide focus. The subcommittee was also able to foster working relationship with other organizations and the community-at-large. Finally, in addition to the two citywide "Meet and Greet" events from last year, the subcommittee sponsored a local "Meet and Greet" after work in February 2009 to introduce the subcommittee to prospective members.

Activities in recognition of Domestic Violence Month - These events were part of a joint effort of the city-wide Criminal Court Gender Fairness Committee.

"Teen Dating Violence: Awareness and Prevention" (Part One)
October 1, 2008

This was a presentation co-sponsored with the Queens County Women's Bar Association at the Queens Criminal Court on October 20, 2008, at which Kirsten deFur from the NYC Mayor's Office to Combat DV and Chuk Obasi, Senior Peer Educator, for NYC Healthy Relationships Training Academy, spoke to a group of attorneys, social workers and other users of the criminal court. Among the issues that were addressed were understanding the nature of violence in teen dating relationships, issues of power and control, and identifying the warning signs of an abusive partner. The participants also discussed the roles that adults can play in helping to identify a young person or loved one who is involved in a violent relationship, how to provide assistance or support, and how to stop this type of behavior within their families. The event was open to the public. (See attached flyer). Approximately 50 people attended.

"Creative Strategies in Addressing Teen Dating Violence" (Part Two)
November 20, 2008

This presentation was a follow-up to the first event and provided more in-depth discussion about the issues of teen dating violence. CLE credit was provided and the Queens County Women's Bar Association provided the refreshments as co-sponsors. For this presentation, we had the following speakers, Rossana Bianco, Esq., a staff attorney for Day One, an organization that specializes in dealing with violence affecting teenagers, and Joe Samalin, from Men Can Stop Rape Now, an organization that deals with issues of gender based violence. The presenters discussed the importance of collaboration between the criminal and civil justice system, the non-profit organizations, schools and communities in addressing this issue. They also discussed the phenomenon of stalking, which occurs amongst young people as well. Other topics were the importance of education, primary prevention, identification of this issue and intervention and working with youth. Approximately 60 attended this event.

Summary of Other Activities in Queens Criminal Court 2008-2009

Domestic Violence Part(AP-4): Queens County Criminal Court continues to maintain a dedicated domestic violence part. The part is presently presided over by Judge William Harrington. The part handles cases involving defendants charged with crimes against their spouse, live-in partner and same sex partners. The part also conducts bench and jury trials in the same courtroom on a regular basis. In addition, felony complaints involving domestic violence cases are also handled in that part, including subsequent dispositions to Superior Court Informations in Part D-40.

The number of filings in Part AP-4 has increased significantly over the past several years: In 2005 there were 774 cases pending in AP-4 on Jan 1, 2005. As of January 2009, there were 1220 cases pending in the same part. For the past several years there has been a 20% increase every year in the number of filings in this part. This does not include the cases that have been transferred to IDV.

Prostitution Intervention Part: This part was created by Judge Fernando Camacho several years ago to address the problematic way that the criminal justice system was responding to the issue of teen prostitution, often treating young women charged with prostitution offenses as mere offenders rather than as victims who have been trafficked or coerced into the profession by pimps through the use of violence or other means, with little opportunity of escape from that lifestyle. Very often the courts would treat prostitution cases as disposable cases with very little consideration of the dire predicament these young women were in, many of whom were kept in that life by brutal force or drug addiction. Judge Camacho started this part with a focus on teen prostitutes, ages 21 and younger, because of the grim reality of helplessness and victimization that defined many of their lives, hoping to offer alternatives for them and a chance to leave "the life." With the cooperation and support of the Queens District Attorney's Office, the court at first worked with "GEMS" - Girls Education and Mentoring Services - an organization that provides comprehensive services for young victims of sexual exploitation.

Judge Toko Serita now presides over this part to which she was assigned in the middle of 2008 after the elevation of Judge Camacho to the Integrated Domestic Violence Part of the Queens Supreme Court, Criminal Term. Though the part originated with a focus of serving teens arrested for prostitution related offenses, it has been expanded to include women over the ages of 21, men and transgendered individuals who are also in need of similar services and appropriate intervention. In addition to GEMS, the part also works with "SAVI" (Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program) out of Mt. Sinai Hospital. Cases that meet the criteria for participation in the program are flagged at arraignment and sent to this particular part, which will then work closely with these defendants to provide services, job training, housing, or counseling to enable them to become more self-sufficient and to leave "the life."

In January 2008 there were approximately 30 cases, as opposed to approximately 90 in January 2009. This year the GFC subcommittee, along with J. Serita, is planning to continue the educational efforts with the community by conducting sensitivity and awareness trainings on this issue for judges, attorneys, court-staff and the public, as well as a presentation on trafficking in collaboration with the Center for Court Innovation.

**CRIMINAL COURT GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
NY COUNTY SUBCOMMITTEE
2008-2009**

Name of Committee

New York County Gender Fairness Committee
Criminal Court of the City of New York

Name and Title of Chair

Judge Rita Mella

Number of Members:

6

Number of Meetings since April 1, 2008:

11 (including 7 by videoconferencing with other counties) and two "meet and greet" events outside the courthouse

Average Attendance:

5

Composition:

Judges, clerks, attorneys, court officers and administrators

Activities for 2008-2009:

The New York County subcommittee has been very active this year. Its members have worked hard to organize programs on various issues pertaining to gender fairness as well as the wellness of the staff and users of the court. In addition, the subcommittee has worked together with members of the other counties' subcommittees to organize programs that are part of a citywide effort of the Criminal Court Gender Fairness Committee. Those programs were presented in a coordinated manner in all the three counties that form part of the citywide committee. The following events have been organized since our last report:

Wellness Seminar

- ◆ Biking 101 - This presentation was geared to our staff and took place on May 28, 2008. It was a lunchtime workshop for those considering and/or curious about commuting to work by bike and it was given by a representative of Bike New York. Approximately 15 persons attended. Attendees received a map of city bicycle paths and lanes, as well as a rear bike light. Topics covered included: what to wear for comfort and safety; bicycle gear for carrying cargo, riding after dark and

in inclement weather; choosing the best route; parking and locking one's bike; self-care before and after the bike commute (including changing into professional attire); and co-workers perceptions of cyclist and bike commuters. Mention was made of an upcoming class entitled the Savvy Cyclist, which helps riders gain confidence riding in city traffic and know how to perform simple checks on breaks and gears. (See attached flyer)

- ◆ Exercise Class - The New York County subcommittee is sponsoring lunch-time exercise classes for court employees. The classes started in August, 2008. The instructor is also a court employee and the classes take place in one of the courthouses. Between 10 and 15 employees participate in the classes because the space is limited. Many other employees have shown interest in participating in the class once a larger space is secured.

Activities in recognition of Domestic Violence Month

These events were part of a joint effort of the citywide Criminal Court Gender Fairness Committee:

- ◆ Teen Dating Violence Informational Seminar for Court Employees - A lunch-time informational seminar for the staff and other users of the Criminal Court was held on October 16, 2008. A representative of the NYC Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence led the presentation on the issue of violence in teen dating relationships including the topics of what is dating violence, understanding power and control, identifying the warning signs of an abusive partner and how to help a young person or loved one involved in a violent relationship. The participants raised interesting questions about the role that adults could play in stopping this type of behavior within their families. The event was open to the public. (See attached flyer).
- ◆ Teen Dating Violence Program for High School Students - On October 22, 2008, the New York County subcommittee, in conjunction with the New York Women's Bar Association, presented a program on the issue of violence in dating relationships among teenagers. Nineteen students from Murry Bergtraum High School spent the morning at the courthouse. The students first visited the Domestic Violence part where they were able to observe proceedings involving defendants accused of perpetrating violence against family members. Afterwards, the judge presiding over the DV part addressed the students concerning their courtroom observations, as well as the special issues presented by domestic violence cases in Criminal Court. The students also heard from the president of the New York Women's Bar Association who spoke about the issues confronted by children when their parents are involved in domestic violence court proceedings. Finally, a representative of Day One, an organization that specializes in dealing with violence affecting teenagers (see attached materials), engaged the students in a thought-provoking discussion about the signs, symptoms and cause of teen dating violence. Lunch was provided to the

students as a courtesy of the NY Women's Bar Association. Judging by the students' evaluations, the program was a success.

Activity in Celebration of Women's History Month

- ◆ Networking Reception - On March 5, 2009, a reception was held in the courthouse to celebrate Women's History Month. The event was organized by the New York County subcommittee in collaboration with the New York Women's Bar Association. The purpose of the event was to inform the staff and attorneys who appear regularly in the court the work of the Gender Fairness Committee (GFC). The Administrative Judge of the Criminal Court, Hon. Juanita Bing Newton, addressed the audience and noted the substantial increase in the presence and participation of women in the workforce in the Criminal Court during the last three decades. She also thanked the GFC for the work that it has been doing. The program was a success. More than 60 people attended. A good number of people approached members of the GFC to express their interest in working with the committee. We are very excited that three members of the Midtown Community Court staff participated in the event and expressed interest in having a GFC subcommittee in that court.

THE COURT'S PROGRAMS AND SPECIALIZED PARTS

The New York County Criminal Court continues to have a specialized part for Domestic Violence cases. A Resource Coordinator, who is a full-time employee, coordinates the referral and follow up of defendants to treatment programs that are part of the court's mandate in the disposition in these cases, such as Batterer Intervention Programs, substance abuse programs and when appropriate, anger management programs. The Resource Coordinator also provides information to the court regarding the availability of alternative sentencing programs for those defendants who qualify. The specialized domestic violence part continues to work jointly with the New York County Integrated Domestic Violence Court (IDV) in the Supreme Court, and cases are transferred to the IDV court when the families are involved in simultaneous proceedings in Family Court.

The Midtown Community Court (MCC) continues to handle roughly 80% of the prostitution cases in New York County. Beginning in February 2008, the MCC extended its alternative sentencing options for prostitution/prostitution-related cases arraigned at 100 Centre Street to promote consistency and uniformity in sentencing for all such cases in the borough of Manhattan. Judges presiding in arraignments can now sentence defendants charged with prostitution-related offenses to MCC's wide array of social service offerings. Non-disposed of cases can also be transferred to the MCC for further case processing. In the first half of 2008, of the total number of prostitution-related cases handled and disposed of in the MCC, 77 percent received alternative-to-jail sentences that involved the provision of services designed to guide the participant out of

the prostitution lifestyle. Of those that received social service sentences, 83 percent complied with their court mandate.

The MCC, with its unique approach to problem-solving of issues affecting the community, has been able to develop specialized programs that address the particular concerns surrounding prostitution-related offenses. And the court recognizes that to be effective, programming must be relevant to the offenders specific underlying needs. For instance, modeled after MCC's CHOICES program, Transwomen Empowerment is a new program that is transgender specific and counsels offenders on issues of hormone injections, name change, legal rights, social skills training, financial literacy, and health education. CHOICES is MCC's current program for prostitution-related offenses which is a comprehensive psychotherapy treatment initiative addressing issues including safety, self-esteem, education, financial Literacy, and violence. Treatment is facilitated in a group dynamic and includes creative arts therapy.

The MCC has also created the city's first comprehensive Alternatives-to-Prostitution network (ATP network) providing social services to guide offenders out of the lifestyle by targeting specific populations including women of all ages; transgender, gay, and bisexual men; foreign-born women and victims of human trafficking. Counseling services are offered in English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean. In 2008, of 153 graduates of MCC's Alternative-to-Prostitution programs, 90 percent receive referrals for longer-term voluntary services including further counseling, substance abuse or mental health treatment, housing, legal services, job training, or an educational referral and 80 percent of graduates avoid re-arrest for at least 6 months after successfully completing the program.

Beginning in May 2008, MCC convened its bimonthly Alternative-to-Prostitution Network meeting which aims to strengthen partnerships with other community-based service providers, discuss engagement strategies for working with survivors of trafficking, and ultimately develop best practices for working with women involved in prostitution. MCC's extensive roster of partners includes GEMS, Safe Horizon, Sanctuary for Families, New York Asian Women's Center, Urban Justice Center, Lower East Side Harm Reduction Coalition, Positive Health Project, Kings County DA's EPIC program, APICHA and Restore.

In October 2008, the MCC held its CHOICES for CHANGE Benefit. The benefit helped raise awareness and funds to support services for women who are survivors of violence and exploitation and participate in the court's CHOICES program. With over 200 in attendance from across sectors, the evening was highlighted by the premiere performance of "The Life" and held at a neighborhood venue. "The Life" was created thanks to a partnership with a local non-profit arts group, The Women's Project, which inspired and collected expository writing samples from over 100 women who participated in the CHOICES program. Based on their own words, a collage performance was created and the women were ultimately given a voice and public platform to share their personal stories.

Starting in March 2009, MCC's Women in Need of Support Program will launch its quarterly Exploring Leadership Series. With the support of the Avon Foundation, these events will provide networking opportunity and leadership development tools for women served by the MCC.

CITYWIDE NYC CRIMINAL COURT GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
2008 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BROOKLYN

Event I

Date: October 6th and 8th
Time: 4 to 5:30 PM
Location: Pacific High School
Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn, NY
Program: Dating Violence Prevention and Healthy Relationships Parts I and II
Presenter: Kirsten deFur, MPH, NYC Mayor's Office to Combat DV, Healthy
Relationship Training Academy
Contact: Lisa Howard
amhoward@courts.state.ny.us

Event II

Date: November, 2008
Time: 1 to 2 PM
Location: Brooklyn Criminal Court,
120 Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn NY
Program: "Sexual and Dating Violence Among Youth"
Presenters: Eric Pliner, Director, Research and Resource Center of the New
York City Department of Education; Meghan O'Connor, Director of
Programs for the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault
Contact: Peter Glick
pglick@courts.state.ny.us

QUEENS

Event I

Date: Oct 20th
Time: 1-2 pm
Location: Queens Criminal Court, 125-01 Queens Blvd., 8th floor
Program: "Teen Dating Violence: Awareness and Prevention"
Presenters: Kirsten deFur, MPH, Director of Research and Prevention Programs, NYC Mayor's Office to Combat DV and Chuk Obasi, Senior Peer Educator, NYC Healthy Relationship Training Academy
Co-Sponsor: Queens County Women's Bar Association
RSVP: Rick Benedetto 718-298-0918

Event II

Date: Nov 20th
Time: 12:45 - 2:15 pm
Location: Queens Criminal Court, 125-01 Queens Blvd., 8th floor
Program: Creative Strategies in Addressing Teen Dating Violence
Presenters: Rossana Bianco, Staff Attorney, Day One & Joe Samalin, Men Can Stop Rape Now
Co-Sponsor: Queens County Women's Bar Association
CLE credit
Contact: Toko Serita
tserita@courts.state.ny.us

MANHATTAN

Event I

Date: Oct 16th
Time: 1pm
Location: Manhattan Criminal Court
100 Centre St., Room 535, New York
Program: Teen Dating Violence: Awareness and Prevention
Presenter: Kirsten deFur, MPH, Director of Research and Prevention
Programs, NYC Mayor's Office to Combat DV
Target Population: Court staff (criminal and family); others who work at 100 Centre St.
and public at large (event posted on NYC Mayor's Office website)
Co-Sponsor: New York Women's Bar Association
Contact: Janet Curley
jcurley@courts.state.ny.us

Event II

Date: Oct 22nd
Location: Manhattan Criminal Court
100 Centre St., New York
Target Population: Murray Bergtraum high school students
Program: 1) observation of DV part
2) presiding judge will address group
3) one-hour interactive presentation (jealousy, forms of abuse, how to help a friend) will be given by a community organizer from Day One
Presenters: presiding judge; Rosanna Bianco, Day One
Co-Sponsor: New York Women's Bar Association
Contact: Judge Tanya Kennedy
tkennedy@courts.state.ny.us

*Gender Bias Committee, New York County,
Supreme Court, Criminal Term*

Hon. Bonnie Wittner

New York Supreme Court
111 Centre Street, Room 739
New York, NY 10013
646-386-4426

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee Gender Fairness, New York County Supreme Court, Criminal Term

Name and Title of Chair Hon. Bonnie Wittner, 100 Centre St. New York, N.Y.

No. Members 15 No. of Meetings 5 Average Attendance 8-10 Use of Video Conferencing? No

Composition of the Committee Judges, Court Clerks, Court Attorneys, A.D.A.'S, Defense Counsel, Court Officers, Interpreters.(see attached).

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Women's History Month 2009

We are having a combined program on May 11, 2009. The Committee is in the process of finalizing the speakers. We are focusing on stalking and domestic violence.

Other Activities in the Past Year Continuing to monitor promotions of women in the uniformed and nonuniformed positions within the Court system. Our efforts have resulted in larger numbers of female sergeants although we are concerned there are no female officers at higher levels in Criminal Term. We intend to request representation on the hiring committee for the uniformed and clerks' positions in New York County.

What are your plans for next year?

Do you see operational issues in your court that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Yes, as was the case last year, incarcerated women with babies who are not produced for court appearances because of child care issues; lack of private pen facilities for lawyers to interview female prisoners in Part F, 100 Centre St.

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

Obtaining CLE credit for our programs, providing a proposed list of speakers who are available on selected topics

Members of Gender Fairness Committee, New York County Supreme Court, Criminal Term,
2009

Chair, Hon. Bonnie Wittner

A.D.A. Eric Arnone

A.D.A. Jordan Arnold

Senior Court Clerk Mary Cassidy

A.D.A. Emily Ching

Associate Court Clerk Christopher DiSanto

Senior Court Analyst Beth Folvik

Principal Court Attorney Carol Gerstman

A.D.A. Joy Hohenthauer

Seema Iyer, Esq.

Afsi Khot, Esq.

Hon. Richard Hayes

Principal Court Attorney Michelle Parisient

Senior Court Officer Betty Santiago

Court Interpreter Miriam Torres

Hon. Laura Ward

Ruth Yang, Esq.

*Gender Bias Committee, New York County,
Supreme Court, Civil Term*

Hon. Deborah Kaplan

Supreme Court, New York County
111 Centre Street
New York, NY 10007
646-386-5567

Anna Rumberg, Esq.

Supreme Court, Law Department
60 Centre Street
New York, Ne York 10007
646-386-3078



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

**Name of the Committee: GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE of the
SUPREME COURT, CIVIL BRANCH, NEW YORK COUNTY,
NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE and
APPELLATE TERM, FIRST DEPARTMENT**

In 1989, in accordance with an Office of Court Administrative directive that Administrative Judges establish Gender Fairness Committees within their respective courts, our Supreme Court, County Clerk's Office and Appellate Term, established an Anti-Bias Committee to promote gender fairness, tolerance, equal opportunity and cultural diversity. During the past 20 years, our New York County Anti-Bias Committee has been among the most active such committees in the State. In 2007, the Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann, Administrative Judge (ret.), reorganized our Anti-Bias Committee, effective January 1, 2008 by appointing two successor Committees: the Gender Fairness Committee and the Cultural Diversity Committee. We continue on under the guidance of our current Administrative Judge, the Hon. Joan B. Carey.

Name, Address, Telephone, Fax Number, and E-mail Address of the Gender Fairness Committee Chairs:

Hon Deborah Kaplan
Supreme Court
60 Centre Street
Room 660
New York, New York 10007
646-386-5567
Fax: 212-401-9037
dkaplan@courts.state.ny.us

Anna Rumberg, Esq.
Supreme Court-Law Department
60 Centre Street, room 359
New York, New York 10007
646-386-3635
arumberg@courts.state.ny.us

The Gender Fairness Committee has three sub-committees devoted respectively to sponsoring programs for Women's History Month (March); Take Your Children To Work Day (April); and Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October). Of course, our Gender Fairness Committee does not function in a vacuum and many activities in our court by our sister Cultural Diversity Committee, by other court committees, and by individuals, complement significantly the work of our Gender Fairness Committee.

A word about our June "Annual Unity In Diversity Program", now co-sponsored by our Cultural Diversity Committee, Gender Fairness Committee, and the County Clerk. This wonderful program held in our Rotunda is a social event featuring the cuisine of so many of the diverse cultures within the court system and beyond. In addition to the various foods offered, slides of our diverse court population are displayed, and background music is played reflecting diverse cultural music. This year we are delighted to have Franc Perry, Esq. perform as well as the Supreme Court Officer's own pipe and drum corp. Last year, approximately 40 Bar Associations and cultural associations participated and literally hundreds of Judges, court staff, practitioners and other "constituents" of our

court enjoyed this mid-day program. This program also celebrates the goals of our Committee, of our Cultural Diversity Committee and of our affiliated organizations. This year the Committee voted unanimously to rename this annual event in honor of the late Caren Aronowitz, long time Co-Chair of the Cultural Diversity Committee, who tragically passed away this past year.

Other activities of our court which complement and support the goals of our Gender Fairness Committee, include our Court Tour Program, the largest such program in the court system hosting as it does thousands of students each year together with Judges and dignitaries from all over the world (Ms. Yasmin Beydoun, Director); our large Summer Intern Program (with its own lecture series) which last summer, as in previous summers, attracted more than 100 law students, a clear majority of whom were women law students; our Newsletter, *Just Us*; and various cultural, ethnic and educational programs, sponsored by a variety of court committees and Bar groups.

Number Members: Gender Fairness Committee 24

Number of Meetings: 10

Average Attendance: Excellent

Use of Video Conferencing: No

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.)

The Committee includes Judges, Attorneys, Court Reporters, Court Referees, Secretaries, Court Security Staff and Clerks, all of whom are Judges and staff of our court, the County Clerk's Office and the Appellate Term, First Department.

Please include names of co-sponsors, size of the attendance, and copies of any press.

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October 2008:

The Committee presented a program entitled "*Teen Dating Violence-Why Are You Hurting Me?*" which featured Stephanie Nilva, Esq. of *Day One* and W. Christian Burgess from *Safe Horizon*. The speakers discussed a number of issues relating to teen and family violence and focused on what avenues of help were available for victims. They also discussed court procedures as well as the confidentiality rules relating to attorney consultations and representation. The program was attended by a large number of court personnel, members of the community at large and many New York City high school students. After the speakers concluded their remarks we had an open question and answer session, which included the opportunity for audience members to anonymously submit written questions which were read aloud by the panelists and responded to.

Activities for Women's History Month March 2009:

On March 7, 2009, our Committee presented a program featuring renowned author and expert on Workplace Trends, Marci Alboher Esq.. We honored Lucy De Gennaro and Carolyn Jones of the County Clerk's Office for their over twenty-five years of outstanding service to the Court and legal community. We were also delighted to recognize and present a Special Recognition Award to the

Hon. Phyllis Gangel-Jacob (ret.) who serves as a Judicial Hearing Officer. We were fortunate to be able to videotape this program, allowing those members of our court family who were unable to attend in person to be a part of this special program. The Committee is currently planning its programs for the remainder of this year and is working on a program on elder violence for October 2009. We are hoping to have that program certified for CLE credit.

Activities for Take Your Children to Work Day April 2008/2009

Each year we host this program, which is open to court employees' children, which generally draws between 60-90 children, ages 8-15. We have a breakfast presentation where a judge, law clerk, part clerk, court security, court reporter and other employees of the court make a short presentation to the whole group of children explaining what they do. We also conduct mock trials for three age groups (8-9, 10-11, 12-15). Volunteers include a wide range of both judicial and non-judicial personnel from our four courthouses. Finally, we distribute "goody" bags to the children, which contents have been donated by various court groups.

What are your committee's most important strengths:

Our Committee's greatest strength is the intelligence, high energy and commitment of its members, as well as the support of our local administration, all of which are reflected in the outstanding programs which have been sponsored by the Committee and its affiliated committees, groups and individuals.

What are your committee's biggest impediments?

Our court is among the busiest in the State. Thus, there is always a great deal of competition for resources and attention. It is in this very competitive environment that we seek to have our message heard.

What have you learned as a committee chair that you think would be useful to pass onto other committees?

Although we assumed leadership of the Committee just two years ago, we are pleased to continue the very impressive tradition of our court, generally, and the 19 years of prior service of our Anti-Bias Committee, specifically, in promoting gender fairness, tolerance, equal opportunity, and cultural diversity. We are also excited by the renewed interest in our Committee and are delighted to have so many new members. In going forward, we know we have the support of our Administrative Judge, our Justices, our court personnel (including the Office of the County Clerk), which support is so important to the success of our Committee.

What assistance would you find helpful from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

Of course, we are always very interested in the work of the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts and we appreciate that Committee's continuing support. We would suggest the videotaping of other programs so they could be shared with all of our local committees.

What assistance would you find helpful from other local gender bias/gender fairness committees?

We would appreciate receiving notice in advance of their programs.

Please return this form to

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878, New York, NY 10004
212-428-2793 (Fax) Jgoodman@Courts.state.ny.us

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Tuesday, October 28, 2008

Supreme Court- Civil Branch, New York County
60 Centre Street- Room 452
12:45 PM

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

Why Are You Hurting Me?

Welcoming Remarks

Hon. Jacqueline W. Silbermann
Administrative Judge, Supreme Court, Civil Branch

Introduction of Speakers

Hon. Rosalyn Richter
Co-chair, Domestic Violence Subcommittee

Guest Speakers

Stephanie Nilva, Esq. - Day One
W. Christian Burgess - Safe Horizon

Sponsored By:

The Gender Fairness Committee, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County:
Hon. Deborah Kaplan, Anna Rumberg Co-chairs
Domestic Violence Subcommittee:
Hon. Rosalyn Richter, Robin King Co-chairs
Hon. John E.H. Stackhouse, Nancy Bannon, Lindsay Feinberg, Jackie Glass, Cecily Hernandez,
Shelly Rossoff-Olsen, Loren Schwartz, Valerie Qualls, Pam Walitt
and
The New York County Clerk's Office

*Don't be the silent voice that could have saved a life.
If you or someone you know is being hurt,
dial 311 or the Domestic Violence Hotline - (800) 621-4673.*

In Celebration of Women's History Month

Tuesday, March 31, 2009
60 Centre Street, Jury Assembly Room 452, 12:45 p.m.

PROGRAM

WELCOME:

Honorable Joan B. Carey
Administrative Judge

REMARKS:

Honorable Deborah Kaplan
Anna Rumberg, Esq.
James Rossetti, Esq.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

One Person/Multiple Careers:
A Conversation with Marci Alboher



Author, New York Times Contributor and Internationally Recognized Expert
on Workplace Trends and 21st Century Careers



HONOREES:

Distinguished Service Award
Carolyn Jones and Lucy DeGennaro
New York County Clerk's Office

Special Presentation to:
Hon. Phyllis Gangel-Jacob

This event is sponsored by the Gender Fairness Committee of the Supreme Court, New York County
Hon. Deborah Kaplan and Anna Rumberg, Co-Chairs
New York County Clerk's Office, Hon. Norman Goodman

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Wednesday, March 31, 2009 - 12:45 P.M.
60 Centre Street, Jury Assembly Room 452

BIOGRAPHIES

FEATURED SPEAKER: MARCI ALBOHER

From actors-turned-corporate speech trainers to lawyer/chefs and mompreneurs, newfangled career descriptions are transforming the way we live and work. Whether people are custom-blending careers for fulfillment or for economic security, this new style of work is here to stay. Marci Alboher is the author of the book *One Person/Multiple Careers* (Warner Books 2007), which popularized the term "slashers" to describe those who can't answer the question "What do you do?" with a single answer.

As a lawyer-turned-journalist/author/speaker/coach, Marci is both a chronicler of the growing slash movement and Exhibit "A" of the slash lifestyle. Marci is a frequent contributor to the *New York Times*, where she created the *Shifting Careers* column and blog. Her writing and career advice have also been featured in scores of media outlets including *The TODAY Show*, *National Public Radio*, *CNN*, *NBC Nightly News*, *MSNBC*, *USA Today*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. A popular speaker on workplace trends and 21st century careers, Marci also teaches journalism and privately coaches a select group of nonfiction writers.

over



HONOREES:

LUCY DE GENNARO and CAROLYN JONES

When speaking about Lucy De Gennaro and Carolyn Jones it is almost impossible to distinguish between their remarkably similar careers in the County Clerk's office. Lucy started with us on December 4, 1972 as an Office Typist and Carolyn began her career one year later on December 5, 1973 also as an Office Typist. Throughout their tenure in the County Clerks office both were promoted to the same Salary Grades and most of their promotions occurred on the same date or within a short period of time of each other. On February 18, 1999 both Lucy and Carolyn were appointed to positions as Senior Court Analysts and on September 25, 2003 Carolyn also became a Senior Court Clerk. Now, for over a decade, both have occupied JG-21 positions. Each women has worked in almost every area of the County Clerk's office on the non-jury side of the operation. For most of the 80's and early 90's Lucy was our passport acceptance agent and during that same period Carolyn was second in command to Herb Fleisher in the record room. Eventually Lucy was named as the Chief Cashier in room 141b and Carolyn was made supervisor and Clerk in charge of the Notary section, also in room 141b. Today, and for the past decade, both women work within a few feet of one another. They are outstanding civil servants, knowledgeable, helpful and professional and both have received numerous letters of commendation. Significantly, both have served Norman Goodman diligently and faithfully throughout the years and are particular favorites of his. The cashiering section and the Notary section would/could not perform without these two veteran employees. Lucy and Carolyn are truly deserving of the honor and recognition this award bestows on them for the invaluable contributions they have made to the County Clerk's office and the Unified Court System.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Wednesday, March 31, 2009 - 12:45 P.M.
60 Centre Street, Jury Assembly Room 452

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE PHYLLIS GANGEL-JACOB



Today we honor our colleague and dear friend, Justice Phyllis Gangel-Jacob (Ret.), for her outstanding judicial service, exemplary leadership on behalf of women in the legal profession, and ever warm and gracious presence.

Justice Gangel-Jacob - always a very proud "New Yorker" - graduated from Erasmus Hall High School and Brooklyn College and received her Juris Doctorate in 1966 from New York University School of Law. Prior to attending law school, Justice Gangel-Jacob was a homemaker, worked as a social worker, and served as a coordinator of the historic Freedom Rides to the South in the early 1960s. For many of us 1966 does not seem long ago. 1966 is, however, very distant in terms of the social dynamics of the legal profession and our wider society. When Justice Gangel-Jacob entered law school few women were pursuing careers as attorneys; to the extent women were then associated at all with our profession, it was principally as stenographers and secretaries. Today, thankfully, our society reflects many of the advances in women's rights and civil rights generally championed by the social pioneers of that decade, among them our own Justice Gangel-Jacob. A most telling indicator of the progress of women in the legal profession is that, although few women attended law school in the 1960s, today women represent more than half the students at many law schools. Justice Gangel-Jacob herself is an exemplar of the advances women have made in our profession and in our wider society. She represents in so many ways the best of "Women's History" as it evolved during much of the 20th century and up to the present.

Justice Gangel-Jacob has always been very attuned to the challenges confronting women in the workplace, especially in those fields, such as the law, long principally the exclusive domain of men. Moreover, Judge Gangel-Jacob during her law school years and her early years of practice

confronted exactly those challenges as a single mother. Thus, she knows very well indeed of the countless pressures and conflicts presented by family and professional obligations.

From 1967 until 1984, Justice Gangel-Jacob was engaged in general legal practice, with concentration in matrimonial law and litigation. She was elected to the Civil Court of the City of New York in 1985. In 1986 she was assigned to the Criminal Court. In 1989 she was designated a Justice of the Supreme Court. She was elected to the Supreme Court, New York County in 1993. In 1999 she was appointed to the Appellate Term, First Department. During her tenure in the Appellate Term, First Department, she also presided over a very busy Guardianship Part responsible for ensuring that the needs of those unable to manage their own personal and financial affairs are met. Since January 2007, following mandatory retirement in December 2006, she has served as a full-time Judicial Hearing Officer in the Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County monitoring guardianships.

Through teaching, Justice Gangel-Jacob has long shared her legal expertise and experience. Her faculty positions have included Adjunct Professor of the Family Law Department, Bernard M. Baruch College of the City University of New York; Lecturer on Judicial Process and Ethics, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law; and Faculty Member in Comparative Family Law, Hofstra University School of Law, Study Abroad Program, Nice, France. She has also participated in innumerable Bar Association and Court System Continuing Legal Education Programs, both as a principal speaker and panel member.

Justice Gangel-Jacob has long been an important role model and mentor to countless women and men at the Bar and on the Bench. By virtue of her long tenure on the Bench, Justice Gangel-Jacob naturally has had many Law Clerks, including now Judge of the Civil Court of the City of New York (assigned presently to the Family

Court of the City of New York) Lori S. Sattler and Roberta McClintock, Esq., now Law Clerk part-time to the Hon. Sherry Heitler. Justice Gangel-Jacob's Law Clerks and many Law Clerks of other Justices and Court Attorneys credit our honoree for not only providing invaluable guidance, instruction and support but also for assisting materially in the advancement of their careers at the Bar and on the Bench. Indeed, so many of those privileged to work with and for Justice Gangel-Jacob readily acknowledged that few in their experience have provided more constant encouragement, consistent support and lasting friendship than Justice Gangel-Jacob.

Justice Gangel Jacob has been an active member of the National Association of Women Judges, where she served as President of its New York State Chapter and as District Director for Connecticut, New York and Vermont. Such high office in the National Association of Women Judges is reserved for those most accomplished in their own right and most supportive of women in the judiciary, in the courts generally, and in the wider workplace. Justice Gangel-Jacob's published opinions are legion and she is renowned for her expertise in civil practice, matrimonial law, and guardianships. Complementing her important judicial work has been her commitment to our wider community and to the organized Bar. She has served on the Board of Community Research Initiative on AIDS and HIV-related clinical research and on the Board of the Institute for Community Living, a not-for-profit organization which provides housing for the mentally ill. She is a member of, inter alia, the American Judicature Society, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, the New York County Lawyer's Association, the New York State Bar Association, and she has been active in countless committees and sections of these associations.

Justice Gangel-Jacob richly deserves our appreciation and recognition by virtue of her commitment to the New York State courts, the legal profession, and the public we all serve. Countless colleagues and court staff have over years sought her advice and wise counsel and she is ever-welcoming and supportive. It is entirely fitting that during Women's History Month 2009 we recognize

Justice Gangel-Jacob's pioneering role in the legal profession, the inspiration which she has provided to so many, and her tireless efforts to promote equal opportunity and equal rights.

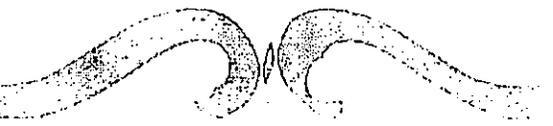
Justice Gangel-Jacob is married to Professor Bernard E. Jacob, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Law, Hofstra University School of Law. Professor Jacob received his B.A. from St. John's College, Annapolis, MD, and he has long been an ardent, proud supporter of this unique college. He received his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley and a Ph.D. from the New School for Social Research with a Berkeley dissertation on the significance of ancient rhetoric. Upon graduation from law school, Professor Jacob clerked during the 1960-1961 Term of the U.S. Supreme Court for Justice William O. Douglas.

Their daughter, Jamie Gangel, a well-known television reporter, is presently the national correspondent for NBC television's "Today Show." Jamie is married to the best-selling novelist, Daniel Silva. Her son, Matthew Jacob is a computer engineer. Matthew is married to poet and teacher Mary Hower. As Justice Gangel-Jacob has inspired us all, she is now inspiring her four grandchildren.

Notwithstanding Justice Gangel-Jacob's formidable accomplishments on the Bench and beyond, she remains modest and self-effacing. Her career reflects the highest standards of professionalism. Her high intelligence, legal expertise, and pragmatic approach to the vagaries of the law and of life are complemented by her warm and gracious personality. Her intellectual curiosity is insatiable, her concern for others palpable and her commitment to the law, our court, and the public good unwavering.

It is a privilege and pleasure for us to honor Justice Phyllis Gangel-Jacob in Women's History Month 2009.

SUPREME COURT, CIVIL BRANCH, NEW YORK COUNTY
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
Hon. Deborah A. Kaplan and Anna Rumberg, Esq., Co-Chairs



The Antibias Committee, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, NY County
and The NY County Clerk's Office Present

5th Annual
"Celebrating Unity
In Diversity"

Friday, June 6, 2008 - 60 Centre Street, Rotunda
12:30 to 2:30

Ethnic and Cultural Literature, Photos, Music, and Food

Don't Miss This Exciting Event

Co-sponsored by:

Asian American Bar Assn. of NY
? Assn. of Black Women Attorneys
Assn. of Designated Supreme Court Justices
Assn. of Secretaries to Supreme Court Justices
Assn. of Surrogates & Supreme Court Reporters
Bd. of Justices of the Supreme Ct., NY County
? Brehon Law Society
Catholic Court Attaches Guild
Cervantes Society, Inc.
? Columbian Lawyers' Assn.
Court Attorneys Assn. of the City of New York
District Council 37, Local 1070 AFSCME, AFL-CIO
? Dominican Bar Assn.
Gay-Straight Alliance of the New York State Courts
Guild of Catholic Lawyers, Inc.
? Hispanic National Bar Assn.
Jewish Lawyers Guild
Latino Lawyers Assn.
Law Secretaries & Law Assistants Collegium, Inc.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Law
Assn. of Greater New York (LeGaL)
? Metropolitan Black Bar Assn.
Municipal Credit Union
? National Employment Lawyers' Assn.
New York Career Institute
? New York City Bar Assn.
New York County Clerk's Office
New York County Lawyers Assn.
? New York State Court Clerks Assn.
New York State Supreme Court Officers' Assn.
? New York State Trial Lawyers' Assn.
New York Womens' Bar Assn.
? Puerto Rican Bar Assn.
Shomrim Society of the New York State Courts
The South Asian Bar Assn.
The Tribune Society
U. S. Legal Support
Womens' Bar Assn. of the State of New York

? No Response
Korean Lawyers, CSEA, Judicial Friends
Nigerian Lawyers, Protestant Lawyers

Event Co-Chairs:
Caren Aronowitz and Carmen Reyes-Rosenthal

Gender Fairness Committee of the Twelfth Judicial District

Hon. Richard Lee Price

Supreme Court Justice
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451
718-590-3590



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee: Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District

Name and Title of Chair: Justice Richard Lee Price
Supreme Court of the State of New York
Bronx County Hall of Justice
265 East 161st Street
Bronx, New York 10451
Tel. # 718-618-3646
Fax # 718-618-3565
e-mail: rprice@courts.state.ny.us

Members – would you attach a list of your members? Please note attachment of our stationary which lists all of our members.

Composition of the Committee (judges, administrators, advocates, etc.): The composition of the Committee includes: Judges, Court Attorneys, Court Clerks, Court Officers, Court Reporters, Stenographers, custodial employees, and other personnel from the various courts in the Bronx, as well as the County Clerk's Office, Borough President's Office, Bronx Bar Association, the Bronx District Attorney's Office, The Legal Aid Society, The Bronx Defenders and social services advocates.

Dates of Meetings:

Committee meetings::

January 9, 2008, March 12, 2008, April 30, 2008, June 30, 2008, September 9, 2008, October, 20, 2008, January 8, 2009, February 9, 2009, March 19, 2009.

Subcommittee meetings:

-National Domestic Violence Awareness Day-October: October 7, 2008, October 16, 2008, October 20, 2009.

-National Women's History Month: January 21, 2009, January 29, 2009, February 4, 2009, February 18, 2009, February 25, 2009, March 4, 2009, March 11, 2009.

-Lunch Programs: January 29, 2009, February 11, 2009, February 19, 2009, February 26, 2009, March 6, 2009, March 12, 2009.

Average Attendance: 10-15 people

Do you use Video Conferencing? N/A

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008:

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month - "Work Place Education Day" (October 22, 2008)
"The Teen Face of Domestic Violence"

The introduction was done by ADA David Birnbaum - Trial Counsel, Domestic Violence Bureau, Bronx District Attorney's Office. The presenters were: Connie Marquez, Director of Teen Services, Steps to End

Family Violence and Carol Grannum, TAP Facilitator and Youth Community Coordinator, Steps to End Family Violence. The feedback was extremely favorable and informational. Approximately 200 people attended this program.

The event was co-sponsored by: Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx Borough President, Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx County Clerk, Bronx Women's Bar Association, Bronx Civil Court, Bronx Criminal Court, Bronx Family Court - Gender Fairness Committee, Bronx Surrogates Court, New York State Court Officers Association, New York State Supreme Court Officers Association, The Columbia Society, The Tribune Society, and The Yankee Tavern.

See flyer annexed hereto.

Women's History Month Program 2008:

Honorees/Women of Achievement:

- Ms. Elaine Brennan: Senior Vice President Operations Montefiore Medical Center/Einstein Div.
- Justice Laura G. Douglas: Supervising Judge, Bronx Civil Court
- Ms. Soledad O'Brien: News Anchor, CNN

Com-MEN-dable Person: Mr. Shimon Waronker, Principal, JHS 22

Women of Distinction Awards: (10) Awards were given to court/building employees.

Evolve Students' Awards: Awards were given to (3) outstanding female middle and high school students who have demonstrated a unique ability to rise above daunting circumstances in their young lives.

The program co-sponsors were: Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx Borough President, Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx County Clerk, Bronx Women's Bar Association, The Columbia Society, Inc., Court Attorneys Association of the City of New York, Hispanic Court Officers Society, Loria Corporation, New York State Court Clerks Association, New York State Court Officers' Association, New York State Supreme Court Officers' Association, Olympia-Hearns Flower Shop, The Tribune Society, Inc., The Yankee Tavern and The 161st Street Merchants Association.

Approximately 150 people attended this event.

See flyer annexed hereto.

Activities for Women's History Month 2009:

-OUR SPECIAL 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Honorees/Women of Achievement:

- Susan Chinitz, Psy.D, Director: Early Childhood Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
- Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick: Senior Associate Judge, NYS Court of Appeals
- Jewel Williams: Chief of Department, NYS OCA Dept. of Public Safety

Women of Distinction Awards: (5) awards were given to court/building employees.

Evolve Students' Awards: Awards were given to (3) outstanding female middle and high school students who demonstrated a unique ability to rise above daunting circumstances in their young lives.

The event was presented in cooperation with the Bronx Women's Bar Association and co-sponsored by The Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx Borough President, Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx County Clerk, Bronx Women's Bar Association, The Columbia

Society, Inc., Guardians Association New York State Courts, Hispanic Court Officers Society, Loria Corporation, New York State Court Clerks Association, New York State Court Officers' Association, New York State Supreme Court Officers' Association, Olympia-Hearns Flower Shop, The Tribune Society, Inc., The Yankee Tavern, and The 161st Street Merchants Association.

Approximately 200 people attended the event. The feedback was tremendous.

See flyer annexed hereto along with New York Law Journal Coverage.

Other Activities in the Past Year:

-SPECIAL LUNCH PROGRAM:

On November 12, 2008 the recently appointed Hon. Galen D. Kirkland, New York State Human Rights Commissioner was invited by Justice Richard Lee Price to relate some of the most relevant Human Rights issues concerning our state. Approximately 35 court personnel attended this event. A discussion followed the presentation.

See flyer and press release annexed hereto.

-CLE PROGRAMS: We had a very successful CLE program on December 1, 2008 concerning *parenting*. It included a 50 minute film introduced by Committee member Bonnie Cohen-Gallet, Esq. Ms. Cohen-Gallet also conducted a questions and answer session afterwards. There were approximately 12 attorneys who attended this free CLE. Each received 1 credit and will be able to make a presentation to parents referred to the program by Family Court. We are happy with the success of our 1st CLE program and anticipate sponsoring others in the near future. This program was cosponsored by the Bronx County Bar Association's Matrimonial Committee.

See flyer annexed hereto.

-FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE: The recipient of this year's revived drive was THERESA'S HAVEN. This organization is a transitional housing facility, providing housing, education, and other needed assistance.

See flyer annexed hereto.

-GENDER FAIRNESS ON FILM SERIES: We resumed our film series on March 25th, 2009 in the new Bronx County Hall of Justice with the documentary, Courting Justice. This film "profiles female judges in South Africa charged with the task of guarding human rights and enacting transitional justice while caring for families and confronting the challenges of a male dominated institution. The film examines the transformation of an entire legal system, through the intimate and inspiring stories of women working to change it from the bench."

We are looking forward to presenting: Thank You Mr. President, The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till, Lifting the Veil, and My Cousin Vinny. As always each film presentation is lead by a moderator and in some cases includes a guest speaker, followed by audience discussion.

See flyer annexed hereto re: Courting Justice

What are your plans for next year?

Our tentative plans for next year include: The Women's History Month Program, Domestic Violence Programs, Food and Clothing Drives, Gender Fairness on Film Series, Meet the Author, a fashion show for those women trying to get back into the workforce and CLE programs.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important this year?

- Women, as their families' primary care-givers, bear more of the burden and stress during periods of economic downturn.
- “Glass ceiling” with women in various court positions.
- Stalking.
- The need for childcare facilities in all Bronx Courts for litigants as exists in Family Court.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Do you see unmet training needs?

As we have stated in the past, it had been brought to our attention by one of our attorney committee members that there might be a discriminatory issue relating to pretrial release recommendations relating to women defendants. It was noted that stay-at-home female caretakers were not being given credit as women who work and women who were in school. We contacted and met with the Criminal Justice Agency in order to encourage them to update that portion of their standard form. Discussion is continuing.

Justice Price has brought this issue to the attention of the Judges on the Criminal Side.

What do you see as the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

There is a need for more 18B attorneys to represent unemployed and indigent mothers and fathers. A program needs to be presented so that there can be an increase in the number of attorneys who are qualified to represent indigent litigants in Family Court.

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

As we have stated in the past the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts provides ideas and program suggestions for our review and implementation. As in past years we have an urgent need for monetary contributions in order to continue putting on our present programs and present additional innovative programs.

Please return this form by April 3, 2009, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, 25 Beaver St., Rm 878, New York, NY 10004, 212-428-2793 (Fax) Jgoodman@Courts.state.ny.us

Supreme Court
Of the
State of New York



**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

265 East 161st Street
Bronx, New York 10451

In recognition of

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH**

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. BARRY SALMAN
Administrative Judges

THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
presents its annual program for

“Workplace Education Day”

Wednesday, October 22, 2008
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
Courtroom 250

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tania Antero
Lucille M. Barbato
Josephine M. Bastone
Sherry Callwood
Steven B. Clark
Bonnie Cohen-Gallet
Helen Corporan
Maria Cortese
Hon. Tandra Dawson
Major Raymond J. Diaz
Donna Dodds
Hon. Marian Doherty
Hon. Laura Douglas
Darlene Dove
Monica Dula
Sheila Feinerman
Hon. Anita Florio
Hon. Ellen Gesmer
Earnestine Glover
Hon. Lizabeth Gonzalez
Debra Guarnieri
Celestte Guzman
Hon. Wilma Guzman
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
Saundra Jefferson
Esther Kelly
Capt. Holly Kenn
Sue Lee
Hon. Sue Levy
Hon. Sallie Manzanet
Hon. La Tia W. Martin
Susan McPartland
Elix R. Madera-Fliegelman
Deidra Moore
John E. Murray
Hon. Barbara Newman
Bernadette O'Rourke
Tracy Pardo
Sandra Prowley
Charlene Pulakos
Kevin J. Quaranta
Maria Rivero
Hon. Gayle P. Roberts
Anthony Robinson
Major Jose Rodriguez
Hon. Norma Ruiz
Karen Saab-Dominguez
Emily Sanchez
Bonnie Schnapper
Hon. Alison Y. Tullt
Lorraine Venturella
Ann Wilson

Opening:.....KAREN SAAB-DOMINGUEZ
Assistant District Attorney
Bronx County District Attorney's Office

Welcome & Opening Remarks:.....HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. BARRY SALMAN
Administrative Judges

“The Teen Face of Domestic Violence”

Introduction.....ADA DAVID BIRNBAUM - TRIAL COUNSEL
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BUREAU
BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Presenters:

***CONNIE MARQUEZ**
DIRECTOR OF TEEN SERVICES,
STEPS TO END FAMILY VIOLENCE

***CAROL GRANNUM**
TAP FACILITATOR AND
YOUTH COMMUNITY COORDINATOR
STEPS TO END FAMILY VIOLENCE

Closing Remarks.....HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, J.S.C.
CHAIR, GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

Program Co-Sponsors

*Black Bar Association of Bronx County *Bronx Borough President *Bronx County Bar Association
*Bronx County Clerk *Bronx Women's Bar Association *Bronx Civil Court *Bronx Criminal Court
*Bronx Family Court - Gender Fairness Committee *Bronx Surrogate Court *Court Deli *Hispanic Court Officers Society
*New York County Lawyers' Association - Law Related Education Committee *New York State Court Clerks Association
*New York State Court Officers Association *New York State Supreme Court Officers Association
*The Columbia Society *The Tribune Society *Yankee Tavern

The Teen Face of Domestic Violence

"Combating Teen Dating Violence.....

Requires a Coordinated Community Response"

October 22, 2008

Welcome

Teen Dating Violence Statistics

STEPS to End Family Violence

Counseling, Intervention, Safety Planning and Primary Prevention

A Coordinated Community Response

Creation of YODVC:

Court, Victim Services and STEPS' Teen Accountability Program for Males

Teen Accountability Program

TAP's Accountability to Mandating Sources

Facilitator's Role

Participants Compliance to TAP

"The Bridge..."

Who is most responsible for the Queen's death?

Teen Faces of Domestic Violence:

Introducing...Tim, David, Eddie, Mike, and Maria's Boyfriend!

The Collective Work that Lies Ahead...

Connie Marquez, Director of Teen Services, (646) 315-7611

STEPS To End Family Violence is dedicated to empowering families and communities through innovative strength-based programs that promote healing and social change. We are a progressive community organization that values justice and diversity. STEPS is a program of Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families.

STEPS

STEPS TO END FAMILY VIOLENCE

T.A.P.

Teen Accountability Program

A primary objective of the Teen Accountability Program is to provide mandating sources with one of a graduated series of sanctions that strengthens their ability to operate as they respond to young men's violence against women.

T.A.P. holds young men accountable for compliance to their mandate. T.A.P. emphasizes responsibility for choices, engages participants in an analysis of violence against women and promotes healthy relationships. T.A.P. is not designed to provide therapy or anger management.

The ongoing classes meet on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 6:30pm. Participants must be mandated for a minimum of 26 weeks.

Criteria for participants:

- 15-19 years old
- Have demonstrated physical and/or emotional abuse toward their girlfriend, ex-girlfriend or mother
- Be residents of the New York City Metropolitan area
- Court mandated or agency mandated
- Not actively abusing drugs or alcohol

For More Information Contact:

Connie Marquez

(646) 315-7611

STEPS to End Family Violence

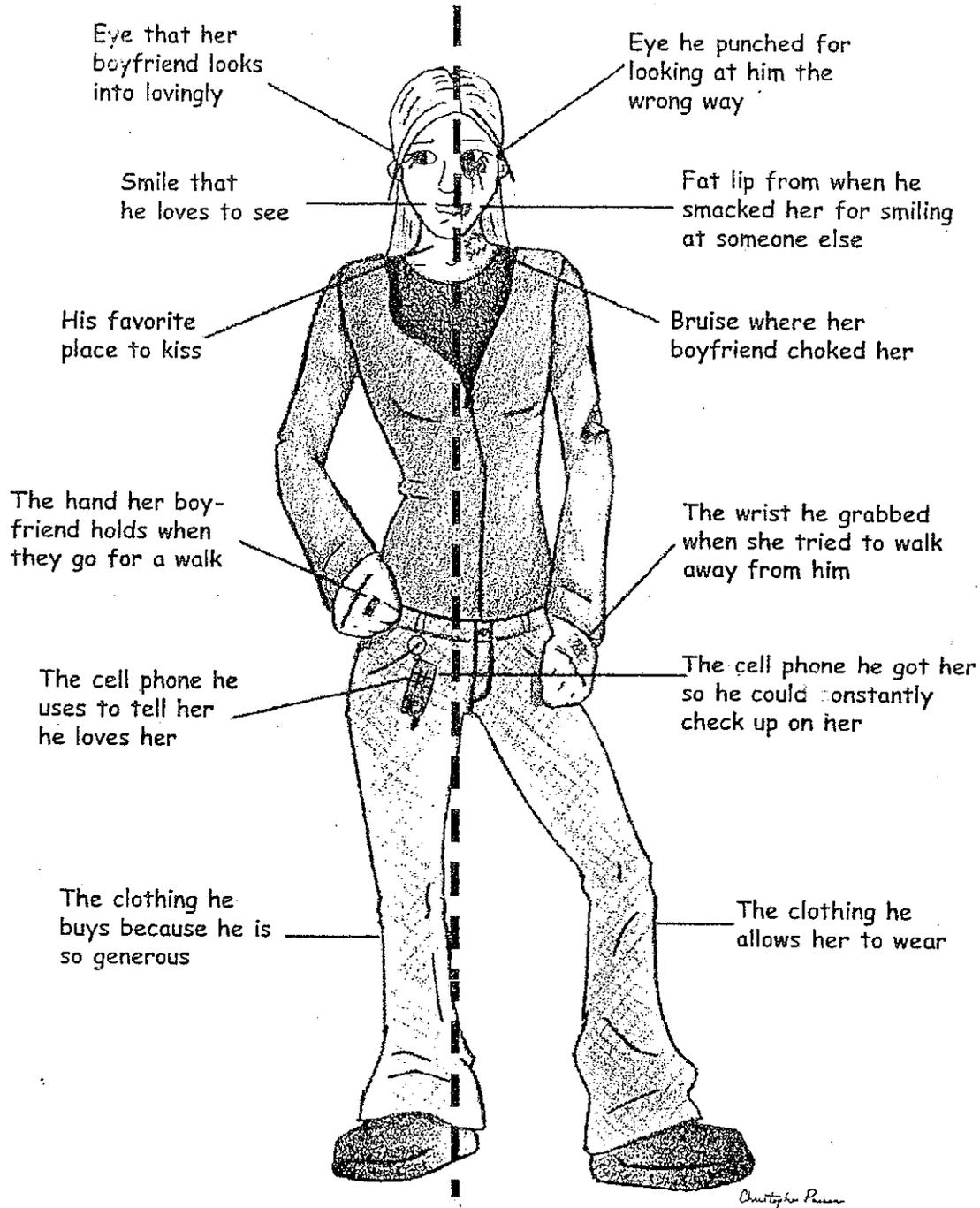
P.O. Box 287326

New York City 10128

A program of Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families

One time registration fee: \$20.00

WHICH SIDE DESCRIBES YOUR RELATIONSHIP?



Are you sure?

The left side can become the right side before you even realize it's happening. Extreme jealousy and possessiveness are not signs of love. They are signs of control, and they can lead to emotional and physical abuse...even death. Learn more about teen dating violence. Go to www.opdv.state.ny.us and search on "teen." If you or someone you know is being abused, call: English: 1-800-942-6906, Spanish: 1-800-942-6908, TTY for the Hearing Impaired: 1-800-877-0656

IF IT DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT, IT PROBABLY ISN'T.

New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) 2005

*Creative concept by Michael Rappaport, Roslyn High School
Submitted for the Teen Dating Violence & Healthy Relationships
Media Contest conducted by OPDV and First Lady Libby Pataki*

FOR EVERY GIRL WHO IS TIRED OF ACTING WEAK WHEN SHE IS STRONG, THERE IS A BOY TIRED OF APPEARING STRONG WHEN HE FEELS VULNERABLE.

FOR EVERY BOY WHO IS BURDENED WITH THE CONSTANT EXPECTATION OF KNOWING EVERYTHING, THERE IS A GIRL TIRED OF PEOPLE NOT TRUSTING HER INTELLIGENCE.

FOR EVERY GIRL WHO IS TIRED OF BEING CALLED OVER-SENSITIVE. THERE IS A BOY WHO FEARS TO BE GENTLE, TO WEEP.

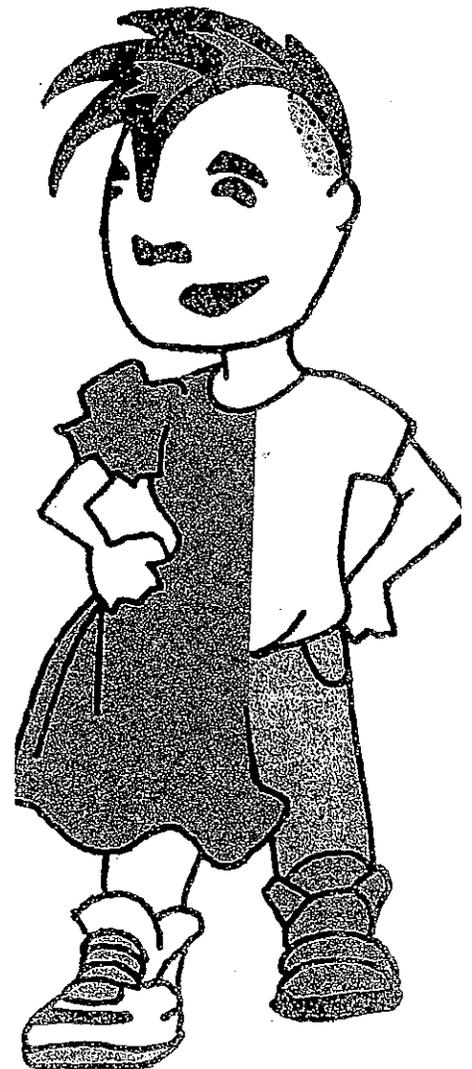
FOR EVERY BOY FOR WHOM COMPETITION IS THE ONLY WAY TO PROVE HIS MASCULINITY, THERE IS A GIRL WHO IS CALLED UNFEMININE WHEN SHE COMPETES.

FOR EVERY GIRL WHO THROWS OUT HER E-Z-BAKE OVEN, THERE IS A BOY WHO WISHES TO FIND ONE.

FOR EVERY BOY STRUGGLING NOT TO LET ADVERTISING DICTATE HIS DESIRES, THERE IS A GIRL FACING THE AD INDUSTRY'S ATTACKS ON HER SELF-ESTEEM.

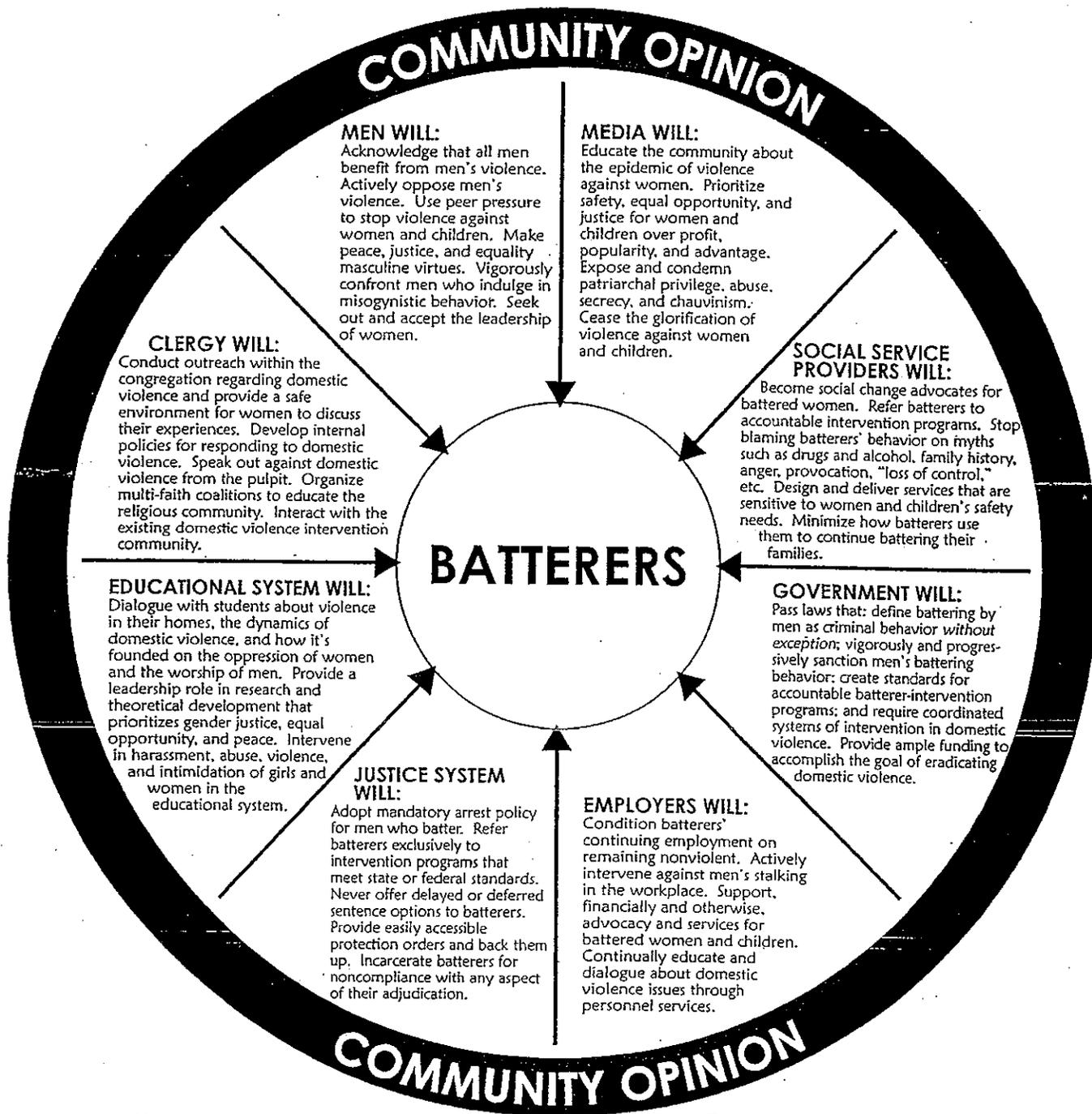
FOR EVERY GIRL WHO TAKES A STEP TOWARD HER LIBERATION, THERE IS A BOY WHO FINDS THE WAY TO FREEDOM A LITTLE EASIER.

Adapted from a poem by Nancy R Smith
For copies of this poster go to www.crimethinc.com



COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY WHEEL

This wheel *begins* to demonstrate the ideal community response to the issue of domestic violence. Community opinion, which strongly states that battering is unacceptable, leads all of our social institutions to expect full accountability from the batterer by applying appropriate consequences. This wheel was developed by Mike Jackson and David Garvin of the Domestic Violence Institute of Michigan (P.O. Box 130107, Ann Arbor, MI 48113, tel: 313.769.6334).



Inspired and adapted from the "Power & Control Equality Wheels" developed by:
Domestic Abuse Intervention Project
202 East Superior Street
Duluth, MN 55802
218.722.4134

Produced and distributed by:



NATIONAL CENTER
on Domestic and Sexual Violence
training • consulting • advocacy

4612 Shoal Creek Blvd. • Austin, Texas 78756
512.407.9020 (phone and fax) • www.pcdsv.org

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE RESOURCES

Emergencies	911
Information and Services	311
NYC Domestic Violence Hotline (all languages) <i>legal services, immigration, youth services, advocacy</i>	800-621-4673 (Hope) www.safehorizon.org
Day One <i>support services to youth 12-22 years old in abusive relationships, legal services, education, advocacy</i>	1-800-214-4150 www.dayoneny.org
DYCD's Youthline <i>after school programs, crisis calls, relationship/family problems</i>	800-246-4646 http://home.nyc.gov/html/dycd/home.html
NYC Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence <i>legal services, housing, counseling</i> Youth services through ACS <i>clinical services, family support</i>	212-788-3156 www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence 800-342-7472
NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault <i>resource center for contacts, advocacy, education</i>	212-523-4344 www.nycagainstrape.org
Children's Aid Society Family Wellness Program <i>support groups, medical and legal services, housing, and individual counseling</i>	212-503-6829 www.childrensaidsociety.org
The Door (Chinese, Spanish) <i>works with teens 12-21, counseling, health and legal services, LGBTQ support, educational and job support</i>	212-941-9090 ext. 3272 212-941-9090 ext. 3221 (Health services) www.door.org
STEPS to End Family Violence <i>Legal services, education, advocacy</i>	212-410-4200 ext. 125
CAMBA (Spanish, Caribbean, and other communities in the Brooklyn/Flatbush area) <i>Works with lower income people, provides educational, legal, and health services, works with immigrant populations</i>	718-287-2600 www.camba.org
Callen Lorde - Health Outreach to Teens <i>LGBTB services, health services to teens, support groups</i>	212-271-7212 www.callen-lorde.org
Safe Horizon Sexual Assault Hotline <i>rape, sexual assault, incest, community outreach programs</i>	212-227-3000 (Rape and Sexual Assault) 800-621-4673 (Domestic Violence) www.safehorizon.org
Sanctuary for Families, Center for Battered Women's Legal Services <i>Provides referral services for shelters, legal and health services, immigration, and GLBT community</i>	800-942-6906 (English) 800-942-6908 (Spanish) www.sanctuaryforfamilies.org
NYC Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Helpline (English & Spanish) <i>Works with GLBT community (all ages), counseling, helps with crimes committed against GLBT people, legal services, advocacy</i>	212-714-1141 www.avp.org

From: "Saab, Karen" <SAABK@bronxda.nyc.gov>
To: "RICHARD PRICE" <RPRICE@courts.state.ny.us>
Date: 12/9/2008 12:33 PM
Subject: RE: Gender Fairness -

To: Honorable Richard Lee Price, Chair, Gender Fairness Committee
Fr: Karen Saab-Dominguez, Chair, Domestic Violence Awareness Program
Date: 12/9/08

The Gender Fairness Committee of the 12th Judicial District held its annual Domestic Violence Awareness Workplace Education Program on October 22, 2008. The program included a discussion of the different faces of domestic violence with a concentration on teenage violence. Panelist included David Birbaum, Trial Counsel, Domestic Violence Bureau, Bronx County District Attorney's Office, Connie Marquez, Director, Steps to End Family Violence and Carol Grannum, Director of Teen Services for Steps to End Family Violence. Speakers addressed the teen accountability program and protocols as well as the unique issues that are encountered in teen domestic violence cases. At the conclusion of the program, speakers remained to address questions that were not presented during the program. The program was well attended by Judges, prosecutors, detectives, interpreters and the defense bar.

Karen Saab-Dominguez
Office of the District Attorney, Bronx County
Child Abuse and Sex Crimes Bureau
198 east 161 Street
Bronx, New York 10451
Tel: (718) 590-8255
Fax: (718) 590-6626
saabk@bronxda.nyc.gov



**THE BRONX COUNTY
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**

HONORABLE JOHN P. COLLINS,
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CRIMINAL DIVISION
HONORABLE BARRY SALMAN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, CIVIL TERM
HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR



- presents the annual program for -

Women's History Month

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2008
12:30 TO 2:30 P.M.
VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL, BRONX SUPREME COURT
851 Grand Concourse

Women of Achievement

MS. ELAINE BRENNAN
Senior Vice President Operations
Montefiore Medical Center/Einstein Division

JUSTICE LAURA G. DOUGLAS
Supervising Judge, Bronx Civil Court

MS. SOLEDAD O'BRIEN
News Anchor, CNN

Com-MEN-dable Person

MR. SHIMON WARONKER
Principal, JHS 22

&

"Women Of Distinction" Certificates will be presented to notable women, and
the

"E V O L V E" Students' Award

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. to
Earnestine Glover (718) 590-3961, Josephine M. Bastone (718) 618-1344
or Bonnie Schnapper (718) 618-3646

THE BRONX COUNTY
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE



&

THE BRONX WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

HONORABLE JOHN P. COLLINS
HONORABLE BARRY SALMAN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE
CHAIR

Presents

OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

for

Women's History Month

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009

12:30 TO 2:30 P.M.

VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL, BRONX SUPREME COURT
851 Grand Concourse

Women of Achievement

Susan Chinitz, Psy.D, Director

Early Childhood Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick

Senior Associate Judge, NYS Court of Appeals

Jewel Williams

Chief of Department, NYS OCA Dept. of Public Safety

&

"Women Of Distinction" Certificates will be presented to notable women

&

"E V O L V E" Student Awards

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. to
Earnestine Glover (718) 618-2310, Josephine M. Bastone (718) 618-1344

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451**

March 4, 2009

TO: Sub-Committee on Women's History Month Program

FROM: Emily Sanchez

RE: Minutes of Wednesday, February 25, 2009

PRESENT: Hon. Earnestine Glover, Chair, SCO Sandra Jefferson, Hon. Richard Lee Price, Maria Rivero, Esq., Emily Sanchez

Chair Earnestine Glover opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Earnestine Glover presented a request made by Judge Gayle Roberts that her supervising judge make the presentation to Susan Chinitz. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that the presenters should be members of the Committee. Regarding other Women of Achievement awardees, the following presenters were designated:

Judge Carmen Ciparick - Judge Richard Lee Price
Chief Jewel Williams - SCO Sandra Jefferson

The Committee was made aware of a potential problem regarding nominee Rachel Lloyd and was informed that Judge Gesmer would gather more information and get back as to whether she would withdraw the nomination for this year.

The plaques for the honorees will be ordered from Loria, which we have been doing all along and as a result we receive a discount for. The food will be ordered from Yankee Tavern.

Traditionally, the honorees have been accorded courtesies by the Administrative Judges and have been escorted to their chambers. Judge Price has informed both Administrative Judges about the program and will talk to Judge Salman about the honorees being taken to his office.

Earnestine reported that she will talk to Tracey Pardo about getting money from OCA and about getting assistance on the day of the program. Because of layoffs and budget concerns, the Borough President no longer has the staff to help us; therefore, we need a couple of people to help us out.

The nominations for the Women of Distinction awards are as follows:

Aileen Kilcommons, Clerk for the Foreclosure Part,
nominated by Josephine Bastone
Anne Passarelli, Secretary to Judge Williams
nominated by Emily Sanchez
CO Rachel Villarini, President, Hispanic Society
Capt. Deborah Senese
nominated by Saundra Jefferson

Earnestine has a nomination and she will get back with the correct spelling of the person's name.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, in Maria Rivero's office, 198 East 161 Street (9th Floor).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Sanchez

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451**

March 11, 2009

TO: Sub-Committee on Women's History Month Program

FROM: Emily Sanchez

RE: Minutes of Wednesday, March 4, 2009

PRESENT: Hon. Earnestine Glover, Chair, Hon. Helen Corporan, Hon. Ellen Gesmer,
Hon. Richard Lee Price, Maria Rivero, Esq., Hon. Gayle Roberts

Chair Earnestine Glover opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. which took place in Maria Rivero's office at 198 East 161 Street.

Judge Gesmer withdrew Rachel Lloyd's name from consideration in the Women of Achievement category for this year.

There was a discussion of the wording on the plaques for the honorees and the following was agreed upon:

Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick
Senior Associate Judge
NYS Court of Appeals

Jewel Williams
Chief, Department of Safety
NYS Unified Court System

Susan Chinitz, Psy.D.
Director, Early Childhood Center
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

There was a discussion on the EVOLVE Awards. The names of two additional high school students were submitted by Sherry Callwood: Nisa Waterman (Bronx School

of Law & Finance), and Erica Correa (Hostos Lincoln Academy of Science). They were considered along with two students from Lehman Honor House: Dhokela Yzeiraj and Alexandra Hernandez. The Committee decided that there would be three recipients: Erica Correa, Dhokela Yzeiraj and Alexandra Hernandez.

Distinctive Women awardees are:

Aileen Kilcommons
Anne Passarelli
Capt. Deborah Senese
Kathy Turner
C.O. Rachel Villarini

Presenters to the Women of Achievement are:

Judge Price to Judge Ciparick
Judge Gesmer to Dr. Susan Chinitz
Saundra Jefferson to Chief Jewel Williams

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11 in Room 328 in Surrogate's (Earnestine's office).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Sanchez

THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

12th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
CELEBRATION**

(10th YEAR ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009
BRONX COUNTY BUILDING
VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL**

Women of Achievement

PAST

H O N O R E E S

2000

Dr. Dolores M. Fernandez
President, Eugenio Maria De Hostos Community College

Hon. Aurelia Greene
Assemblywoman, 77th A.D.

Dr. Lorraine Hale
President & CEO, Hale House

Hon. Judith Kaye
Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals

2001

Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez
President, Hispanic Federation

Hon. Gloria Davis
Assemblywoman, 79th Assembly District

Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Associate Justice, Appellate Division, First Department

Lenore Kramer, Esq.
Kramer & DeVries, LLP

2002

Hon. Maria Baez
Councilwoman, 14th Council District

Sana Q. Nassar
Principal, Harry S. Truman High School

Hon. Ann Pfau
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Management Support
Administrative Judge, Supreme Court, Second Judicial District

Elinor Tatum
Publisher and Editor-in-Chief, Amsterdam News

2003

Hon. Anita R. Florio
Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department

Minerva Melendez
Principal, P.S. 69, Bronx

2004

Gina Bolden-Rivera
President, New York Women's Agenda

Frances Barbaccia Fusco
President, Enrico Fermi Cultural Committee, Belmont Library

Marjorie A. Lesch, Esq.
Past President, Women's Bar Association of the State of New York

Hannah M. Nelson
Chief of Staff, North Bronx Healthcare Network

Hon. Juanita Bing Newton
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives

2005

Hon. Joan Carey
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for New York City Courts

Hon. Carol A. Robles-Roman
Deputy Mayor for Legal Affairs and Counsel to the Mayor

Pastor Michel White-Haynes
Greater Faith Temple Church of the Living God

2006

Hon. Fern Fisher
Administrative Judge for the Civil Court of the City of New York

Hon. Lillian Roberts
Executive Director, District Council 37
American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

Hon. Catherine O'Hagen Wolfe
Clerk of Court, Appellate Division, First Department

2007

Nieca Goldberg, M.D.
Cardiologist, Total Heart Care, P.C.

Joyce Y. Hartsfield, Esq.
President, Bronx County Bar Association

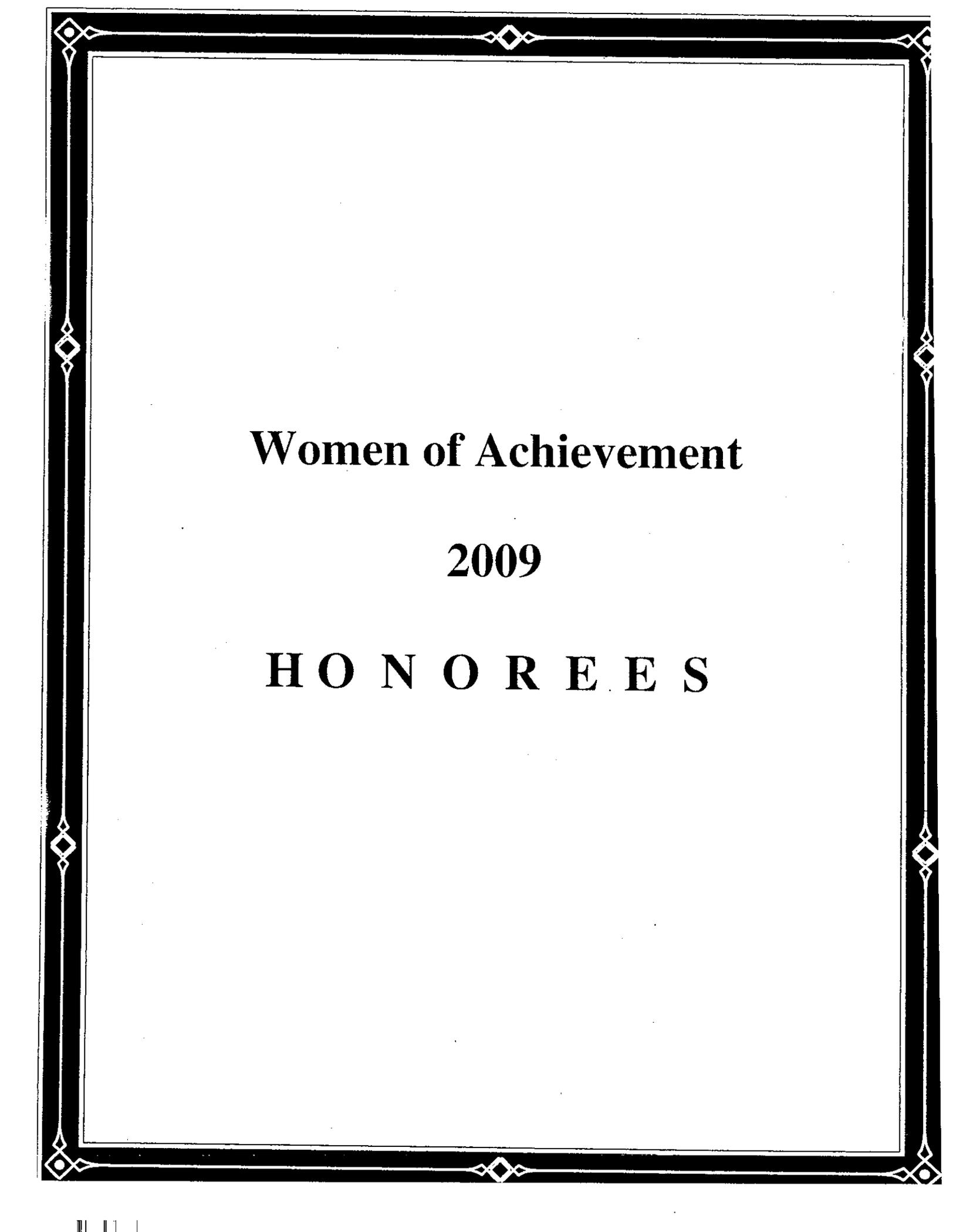
Hon. Judy Harris Kluger
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

2008

Elaine Brennan
Senior Vice President Operation
Montefiore Medical Center/Einstein Division

Hon. Laura G. Douglas
Supervision Judge, Bronx Civil Court

Soledad O'Brien
News Anchor, CNN



Women of Achievement

2009

H O N O R E E S

**SUSAN CHINITZ, PSY. D.
DIRECTOR, EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**

Susan Chinitz is a psychologist with specialties in the areas of infant mental health and developmental disabilities in infancy and early childhood. She is the Director of the Early Childhood Center and the Center for Babies, Toddlers and Families, both therapeutic programs for infants, toddlers and preschool age children at the Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center. Dr. Chinitz is an Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, and the Charles S. and Patricia T. Raizen Distinguished Scholar in Pediatrics at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She is also on the faculty of the Parent-Infant Psychotherapy Program at the Columbia University Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research.

Dr. Chinitz is on the Board of Directors of the New York Zero-to-Three Network, an organization that provides professional development and collaboration support for researchers and clinicians from multiple disciplines and service sectors that interface with infants, toddlers and their families. She is on the Local Interagency Coordinating Council for the New York City Early Intervention Program, is a member of the New York City Early Childhood Mental Health Strategic Work Group, the Administration for Children's Services' Babies Can't Wait initiative, and the Children's Committee of the Bronx Mental Retardation Council. She is also on the editorial board of the Journal for Early Childhood and Infant Psychology.

Dr. Chinitz has obtained city, state and federal grants to provide developmental and infant mental health services in community-based programs for young children, including the first allocation of city funding specifically for infant and early childhood mental health

services that currently supports infant mental health services in primary pediatric care, preschools, foster care agencies and the Family Courts. She received a grant from the Administration on Children and Families to create the first Early Head Start Program in the Bronx; and one from the New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council to create a childcare and preschool program that provided developmental therapies and behavioral supports for children with disabilities and training for childcare staff, and grants from private foundations to start a court-affiliated infant parent intervention program.

Dr. Chinitz is an invited speaker at professional conferences and has authored chapters and journal articles related to psychological assessment of children with disabilities, social-emotional development in infancy and early childhood, young children with attachment disorders and developmental disabilities, young children in the foster care system, and trauma in infancy and early childhood.

**HON. CARMEN BEAUCHAMP CIPARICK
SENIOR ASSOCIATE JUDGE
NEW YORK STATE COURT OF APPEALS**

Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick, *Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals*, was born in New York City, grew up in Washington Heights, graduated from Hunter College in 1963 and received her J.D. from St. John's University School of Law in 1967. She served as a staff attorney with the Legal Aid Society in New York City from 1967 to 1969 when she became an Assistant Counsel for the Judicial Conference of the State of New York; in 1972, Chief Law Assistant of the Criminal Court of the City of New York; and in 1974, Counsel in the Office of the New York City Administrative Judge. In 1978, she was appointed Judge of the Criminal Court of the City of New York, and in 1982 was elected to the New York State Supreme Court. She was appointed to the Court of Appeals on December 1, 1993 by Governor Mario M. Cuomo and sworn in on January 4, 1994, the first Hispanic to serve on the Court of Appeals. She was re-appointed by Governor Eliot Spitzer in November 2007 to serve until 2012.

Judge Ciparick is a member of the Board of Directors of St. John's University School of Law Alumni Association. She served on the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct for eight years and held an adjunct professor position in the legal studies department at New York City Technical College for two years. Judge Ciparick was inducted into the Hunter College Hall of Fame, and has received its President's Medal. She has one daughter, Roseanne, an actor and mother-to-be.

**JEWEL WILLIAMS
CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT
NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

Chief Jewel Williams has been with the State of New York Unified Court System for more than twenty-five years. Currently, she serves as Chief of Department, responsible for the oversight of all security operations across the State including the management of over 4,000 uniformed officers. Included in her duties related to the uniformed force are policy formulation (rules and procedures), policy compliance, training, staffing analysis, security and equipment protocols.

Chief Williams is also responsible for the management of all emergency/continuity of operations planning for approximately 350 court facilities in the sixty-two counties which comprise the State. In this capacity, she works closely with local court and agency administrators (Administrative Judges, District Executives and OCA Administrators) and liaisons with a variety of State and local emergency management agencies.

In previous positions, Chief Williams has worked in operations as both a facility supervisor and as the commanding officer of a court and, on the support side, as Chief of Training and First Deputy Chief of Department.

Chief Williams is affiliated with:

- The National Law Enforcement Association,
- The American Society of Industrial Security (ASIS) International

Chief Williams is a member of:

- The International Association of the Chiefs of Police (IACP)

- NOBLE (National Organization of Black Law Enforcement)
- National Association of Court Management

She earned a Master's Degree in Homeland Defense and Security from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the College of New Rochelle in New York.

Ms. Williams is also currently serving as a consultant for the National Center for State Courts.

Exceptional

Visionary

Optimistic

Leadership

Volunteerism

Education

A W A R D S

ERIKA CORREA
HOSTOS LINCOLN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Erika Correa is a dedicated student who has demonstrated great determination in challenging herself. She elected to take her high school's most rigorous course load, including three AP courses and almost ten college classes. Erika has been on the High Honor Roll throughout high school and earned perfect attendance. Erika committed herself to improving her grade in Calculus. She studied daily and went to tutoring to ensure a higher grade and went from a B to an A-.

For her junior year, Erika chose to work for her school counselor as an office assistant rather than have a free period. This choice demonstrates Erika's commitment to constant learning and self-development. She was completely reliable, efficient and inventive. Erika completed her assignments successfully with full attention to detail and critical thought.

Erika is a serious-minded, focused and involved student. She is determined to succeed and is devoted to academic and personal success. Her strengths include organization, problem-solving and commitment. She participates in many activities both in and out of school including capoeira, drama, band, and internships. Erika is the Vice President of the Honor Society at Hostos. She also joined the EHCCI program, a job and computer training course for Latino youth, and completed an internship through them at a day care center.

Erika chose to use her junior summer productively and was accepted as an intern by the Atlantic Development Corporation, doing building management

in Soho. Erika recognizes opportunities and takes advantage. She knows what she wants to do in the future and takes steps to learn more about her future career field, industrial engineering. While juggling two internships during the summer, Erika also joined Manhattan College's Women and Minorities Engineering Program. Because of her strong work ethic, leadership skills, and extracurricular involvement, Erika is sure to succeed in college and in life.

**ALEXANDRA HERNANDEZ
HONOR HOUSE
HERBERT H. LEHMAN HIGH SCHOOL**

Alexandra Hernandez is a dedicated student who is hard working, persistent and enthusiastic. Her commitment to her academics has earned her an 89.60% average, ranking in the top 10% of her graduating class. She is a member of the Arista National Honor Society.

Several years ago, Alexandra's parents divorced. Their joint custody created havoc in her life, as she was shuffling back and forth every three days from mother to father. Despite the upheaval, Alexandra remained focused on her studies and maintained her academic excellence.

Alexandra is a distinguished athlete who has played on both Lehman's softball and bowling teams throughout her four years in high school. She knows how to work with teammates and make progress toward shared goals. She does so in a manner that demonstrates respect for those around her, creating good will and camaraderie. She works relentlessly on improving her skills. As a result, Alexandra has been proud to be a part of the bowling team's attaining the title of Bronx champs three years in a row and the J.V. softball team's attaining this title for the past two years. Her talent doesn't end here. She sings like a bird and is often asked to perform at school events.

This past summer, Alexandra participated in the Math/Science Partnership providing tutoring to New York City students preparing for the Integrated Algebra/Math A Regents. Foregoing lunch, she has also provided innumerable hours of service for Lehman staff who have found her to be dependable, hard

working and enthusiastic. Alexandra always has a ready smile and is willing to help in any way she can.

Alexandra is a well-rounded student who puts learning first and has organized her life in order to maximize the opportunities before her. She knows how to manage time and evaluate and prioritize items. Her records of attendance and preparedness are impeccable. She is a gem who will surely continue to take the lead in all aspects of school life—academics, athletics and service.

**DHOKELA YZEIRAJ
HONOR HOUSE
HERBERT H. LEHMAN HIGH SCHOOL**

Dhokela Yzeiraj is an energetic, diligent and serious student who consistently infuses a healthy playfulness into all she does. Her hard work has earned her a 92.93% average, with a ranking of 8 out of a graduating class of 578. Her coursework has consisted mainly of honors and Advanced Placement courses, and she continues to challenge herself this year as she is currently enrolled in Advanced Placement courses in Spanish and BC Calculus. She is a member of the Arista National Honor Society.

Dhokela's weekly schedule tends to leave one breathless: she volunteers at Calvary Hospital (a facility dedicated to cancer patients, making them as comfortable as possible during their final days) on Sunday, attends Bible Study thereafter, has Model U.N. Club on Tuesday, mentors on Thursday and enjoys skateboarding in her "spare time." In addition, she spends most afternoons in tutoring for BC Calculus. She knows how to manage time and how to evaluate and prioritize items so that despite her hectic schedule, she manages to master the challenges before her.

Dhokela is a caring individual who spent last summer serving as a volunteer working at an orphanage. It was very painful for her to think of these children growing up without the care that loving parents would provide. Even though they spoke a language nearly foreign to her, she resolved to somehow convey the same love and appreciation to these children that has been shown to her by her own parents. Dhokela also traveled on her own to Switzerland,

spending her time with a host family while learning the French language. This is just one indication of her adventurous and independent nature.

Dhokela displays a love of learning that is rare. She is guided by an inner drive to know more, to uncover, to research and to make sense of the world. This characteristic makes her a solid and successful student. This motivation and sincere, deep yearning to make "all the pieces fit" make her a pleasure to know and an inspiration in the classroom. Her records of attendance and preparedness are impeccable. She will continue to excel in her academic work while continuing to find ways to serve the larger community.

“ WOMEN OF DISTINCTION ”

2009

Aileen Kilcommons
(Associate Court Clerk, Supreme Court, Civil Division)

Anne Passarelli
(Confidential Secretary to Hon. Patricia Williams)

Kathy Turner
(Senior Court Office Assistant)

Rachel Villarini
(Court Officer)

Capt. Deborah Senese
(Court Officer)

NYLS 3-23-09

TO GF



NYLS/RICK KOPSTEIN

Bronx Bar Honors 'Women of Achievement'

The Bronx County Gender Fairness Committee and the Bronx Women's Bar Association hosted their 10th anniversary Women's History Month celebration on Friday, where Court of Appeals Judge Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick, center; Susan Chinitz, director of the Early Childhood Center at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, third from right; and Jewel Williams, chief of the Office of Court Admin-

istration's Department of Public Safety, second from right, were honored as "Women of Achievement." With them are, from left, Tania Antero, a court interpreter and an executive member of the committee; Supreme Court Justice Richard Lee Price, committee chair; Civil Term Administrative Judge Barry Salman; and Criminal Division Administrative Judge John P. Collins.

Calendar NYLS 3-20-09

Today

Bronx County Women's Bar Association

Women's History Month
10th Anniversary Celebration, co-sponsored with Bronx County Gender Fairness Committee, 12:30-2:30 p.m., 851 Grand Concourse. Call 718-618-2310.

Supreme Court
Of the
State of New York



GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
265 East 161st Street
Bronx, New York 10451

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

*THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE OF THE
12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IS PRESENTING
A SPECIAL PROGRAM*

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. BARRY SALMAN
Administrative Judges

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tania Antero
Lucille M. Barbato
Josephine M. Bastone
Sherry Callwood
Steven B. Clark
Bonnie Cohen-Gallet
Helen Corporan
Maria Cortese
Hon. Tandra Dawson
Major Raymond J. Diaz
Donna Dodds
Hon. Marian Doherty
Hon. Laura Douglas
Darlene Dove
Monica Dula
Sheila Feinerman
Hon. Anita Florio
Hon. Ellen Gesmer
Earnestine Glover
Debra Guarnieri
Celestie Guzman
Hon. Wilma Guzman
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
Saundra Jefferson
Esther Kelly
Capt. Holly Kenn
Sue Lee
Hon. Sue Levy
Hon. Sallie Manzanet
Hon. La Tia W. Martin
Susan McPartland
Elix R. Madera-Fliegelman
Deidra Moore
John E. Murray
Hon. Barbara Newman
Bernadette O'Rourke
Tracy Pardo
Sandra Prowley
Charlene Pulakos
Kevin J. Quaranta
Maria Rivero
Hon. Gayle P. Roberts
Anthony Robinson
Major Jose Rodriguez
Hon. Norma Ruiz
Karen Saab-Dominguez
Emily Sanchez
Bonnie Schnapper
Hon. Alison Y. Tuitt
Lorraine Venturella
Ann Wilson

HON. GALEN D. KIRKLAND
*NEW YORK STATE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER*

Commissioner Kirkland will relate some of the most relevant
Human Rights issues concerning our state.

A discussion will follow the presentation.

Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2008

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Place: Bronx County Hall of Justice
265 East 161st Street
Bronx, New York 10451
Courtroom 540

Bring Your Lunch

Please R.S.V.P. to Bonnie Schnapper 718-618-3646

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 6, 2008

Contact: Bonnie Schnapper (718) 618-3646



NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER

GALEN D. KIRKLAND TO ADDRESS THE GENDER FAIRNESS

COMMITTEE OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Galen D. Kirkland, Commissioner of the New York State Division of Human Rights will address the Gender Fairness Committee of the Twelfth Judicial District on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, 1 p.m., at the Bronx County Hall of Justice located at 265 East 161st Street, Bronx, New York, Courtroom 540.

The Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District draws its members from every level of the court community, including bar associations, advocacy and prosecution agencies which service or appear before the courts, the Bronx Borough President's Office, the County Clerk's Office, and each of the various courts in the Bronx. The Committee was created eighteen years ago in response to recommendations of the Chief Judge's Committee on Gender Bias. The Committee helps implement those recommendations, and seeks to further address and correct issues of gender bias and unfair practices that offend members of the courthouse community. The Gender Fairness Committee is chaired by the Honorable Richard Lee Price.

Commissioner Kirkland intends to address issues of gender fairness under the human rights law, especially in light of the recent United States Supreme Court decision in the matter of Ledbetter vs. Goodyear Tire. Ms. Ledbetter worked for Goodyear for nearly twenty years, and late into her employment, discovered that her similarly situated male colleagues had received substantially more in pay raises over the years. The difference in pay raises between Ms. Ledbetter and her male colleagues was approximately 40%, after many years. The Supreme Court overturned lower court rulings in favor of Ms. Ledbetter and erected an almost impossible standard for plaintiff's to pursue an equal pay claim declaring that Plaintiff's must file within 180

days of the *commencement* of the discriminatory conduct, rather than 180 days of *discovering* the discriminatory conduct. Commissioner Kirkland noted that: “As almost all wrong-doers conceal their misdeeds, it is an impossible standard to require Plaintiffs to file a complaint within 180 days of the commencement of the conduct. I look forward to meeting with the Gender Fairness Committee to discuss the importance of our state courts stepping in to fill the gaping hole in civil rights protections left by Ledbetter and other recent decisions of the Supreme Court.”

Commissioner Kirkland holds a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and a Bachelor of Arts from Dartmouth College.

###

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

TODAY

Gender Fairness Committee, Twelfth Judicial District

State Human Rights Commissioner Galen D. Kirkland will discuss human rights issues, 1-2 p.m., Bronx Hall of Justice, 265 E. 161st St., Bronx. Call Bonnie Schnapper at 718-618-3646.

New York City Bar Association

Events held at 42 W. 44th St. Call 212-382-6600 or visit www.nycbar.org.

- Fifth Annual Law Practice Man-

agement Symposium: Making Your Small Firm Thrive in Uncertain Times, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

- CLE: Ethical Issues for Matrimonial Lawyers, 6-9 p.m.

New York County Lawyers' Association

CLE: Understanding the 2007 Amendments to the American Institute of Architects Documents, 6-9 p.m., 14 Vesey St. Call 212-267-6646 or visit www.nycla.org

Continued on page 4

**MCLE TRAINING TO BECOME A CERTIFIED PRESENTER
FOR THE NEW YORK CITY FAMILY COURT P.A.C.T.
PROGRAM (PARENTS AND CHILDREN TOGETHER).**

SPONSORED BY:

**THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE'S MCLE COMMITTEE
AND
THE BRONX COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION'S MATRIMONIAL
COMMITTEE**

WHEN: DECEMBER 1, 2008, 1:00 P.M. TO 2:15 P.M.

WHERE: BRONX FAMILY COURT LIBRARY, 9TH FLOOR

ONE HOUR FREE MCLE

**ATTORNEYS CAN QUALIFY TO BECOME A LEGAL PRESENTER AT THE
MONTHLY BRONX FAMILY COURT P.A.C.T. PROGRAM.**

The Bronx Family Court P.A.C.T. Program provides information to parents about the impact of their custody and/or visitation disputes on their children. Litigants learn the pertinent law regarding custody and visitation. In addition, the program describes what parents and children will encounter when they come to court, educates parents about the effects of domestic violence on children and teaches the importance of safety in custody and visitation planning, explores what parents and children may experience during and after the court proceeding have concluded, teaches parents how they can minimize damage to their children during periods of parental conflict, and helps parents make responsible decisions concerning their children.

**ATTORNEYS ATTENDING THIS FREE CLE SEMINAR WILL QUALIFY TO DO THE
LEGAL PRESENTATION AT THE MONTHLY PROGRAM. ATTORNEYS WILL BE
REQUESTED TO DO THE LEGAL PRESENTATION APPROXIMATELY TWICE IN ANY
CALENDAR YEAR.**

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED BUT NOT NECESSARY TO ATTEND. PLEASE
BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH. CALL 718 618-2142 IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE IN
ORDER TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE 9TH FLOOR LIBRARY.

R.S.V.P.: JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE (718) 618 - 1344, BONNIE COHEN-GALLET (718) 618-2142, VERONICA
MANDEL (914) 723 - 6180

BACK AFTER A BRIEF HIATUS,

THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

- ANNOUNCES -

**A FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE
TO BENEFIT THERESA'S HAVEN**

**DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, PLEASE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CLEAN OUT
YOUR CLOSETS TO HELP THOSE LESS FORTUNATE**

DATES: DECEMBER 4, 5, 8, 9, AND 10, 2008

**DROP OFF SITES: SUPREME COURT - JURY ROOM 607M
HALL OF JUSTICE - 9TH FLR WEST SECURITY DESK
CRIMINAL COURT - ROOM 1-11
FAMILY COURT - ROOM 8-D5
HOUSING COURT - MEZZANINE ADM. OFFICES
DA' S OFFICE, 198 E. 161 ST., RM 941(RECEPTION AREA)**

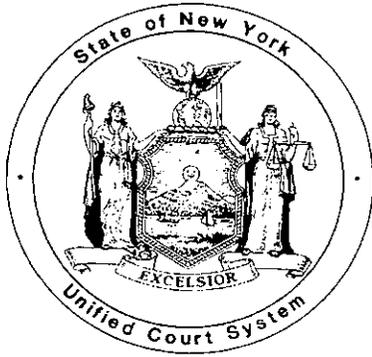
**WHAT: CANNED FOOD GOODS, INCLUDING BABY FOOD
(CLEAN) USED OR NEW ADULT CLOTHING
(INCLUDING WOMEN'S BUSINESS ATTIRE)
(CLEAN) USED OR NEW CHILDREN'S CLOTHING
CHILDREN'S TOYS, BOOKS, DISPOSABLE DIAPERS
HOUSEHOLD GOODS, LINEN**

NOTE: CANNED FOOD IS ESPECIALLY NEEDED AT THIS TIME.

**WHO: THERESA'S HAVEN is a transitional housing facility, providing
housing, education, and other needed assistance.**

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.
FOR INFORMATION IN EACH BUILDING, CONTACT:**

SUPREME COURT:	JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ. (718) 618 - 1344
HALL-JUSTICE & CRIMINAL CT.:	CATHY HARLEY (718) 618 - 3131
FAMILY COURT:	RHONDA YOUNG (718) 618 - 2169
HOUSING COURT:	CHERYL JENKINS (718) 466 - 3001
DISTRICT ATTORNEY BLDG.:	MARIA RIVERO, ESQ. (718) 590 - 2258



TO: HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

FROM: JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ., CHAIR
FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE: MARCH 26, 2009

RE: YEAR 2008 ACTIVITY

The Food and Clothing Drive Subcommittee was formed in 1997 to assist in alleviating the many pressures faced by victims of domestic violence and homelessness in Bronx County. Twelve years ago, I began identifying potential beneficiaries for our drives by making telephone calls to agencies found through the phone book and by following up on suggestions made by committee members and Courthouse personnel. Throughout the years, the committee has continually requested that agencies aiding those in need in Bronx County be brought to our attention.

Our committee has been fortunate in being able to reach out to many welcoming recipients, including those which provide transitional housing, job training, parenting skills, safe house for victims of domestic abuse, etc., such as Theresa's Haven; Thorpe Family Residence; Sarah Burke House; RAIN, Inc.; Cardinal McCloskey Services, Love Gospel Assembly; etc.

The drives have been welcomed by our fellow court employees. I, on behalf of the committee, have received many favourable comments concerning the good work we do. Many of our co-workers have told me that, if not for the convenience of work-site drives, they would throw into the trash their gently-used garments that, instead, were now going to clothe needy children, women, and men.

Indeed, our December 2009 drive for the benefit of Theresa's Haven, an organization that provides transitional housing, training, etc. to victims of domestic violence and homelessness, was very successful. We collected approximately 85 bags of items at our drop-off sites in the following buildings: Supreme Court, Hall of Justice, Criminal Court, Family Court, Housing Court, and the District Attorney's building. The donations were gladly received by the beneficiaries.

Supreme Court
Of the
State of New York



GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
265 East 161st Street
Bronx, New York 10451

PROUDLY PRESENTS

The Gender Fairness on Film Series

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

HON. JOHN P. COLLINS
HON. BARRY SALMAN
Administrative Judges

Courting Justice

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tania Antero
Lucille M. Barbato
Hon. Josephine M. Bastone
Carol Brumley
Sherry Callwood
Steven B. Clark
Bonnie Cohen-Gallet
Helen Corporan
Maria Cortese
Pat Cupples
Hon. Tandra Dawson
Major Raymond J. Diaz
Donna Dodds
Hon. Marian Doherty
Hon. Laura Douglas
Darlene Dove
Monica Dula
Sheila Feurman
Hon. Anita Florio
Hon. Ellen Gesmer
Earnestine Glover
Debra Guarnieri
Celeste Guzman
Hon. Wilma Guzman
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
Saundra Jefferson
Esther Kelly
Capt. Holly Kenn
Susan S. Lee
Hon. Sue Levy
Hon. Sallie Manzanet
Hon. La Tia W. Martin
Susan McPartland
Elix R. Madera-Fliegelman
Deidra Moore
John E. Murray
Hon. Barbara Newman
Bernadette O'Rourke
Tracy Pardo
Sandra Prowley
Charlene Pulakos
Hon. Kevin J. Quaranta
Maria Rivero
Hon. Gayle P. Roberts
Anthony Robinson
Major Jose Rodriguez
Hon. Norma Ruiz
Karen Saab-Dominguez
Emily Sanchez
Bonnie Schnapper
Hon. Alison Y. Tuit
Lorraine Venturella
Rachel Villarini
Ann Wilson



This film presents South Africa's transformation to Democracy as told by 6 women Judges. *Courting Justice* is a groundbreaking film about legal transformation under the new democracy of South Africa.

Date: *March 25, 2009, Wednesday*

Time: *12:45 P.M.*

Place: *Bronx County Hall of Justice
Courtroom 540*

Guest Speaker: *Dr. Ruth B. Cowan
Creator of *Courting Justice**

(Bring your Lunch)



**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

The Gender Fairness Issues on Film Series

Subcommittee Meeting Agenda
February 19, 2009 - 1:00 P.M.
(265 East 161st Street, Courtroom #540)

AGENDA & DISCUSSION

(1) Planning of documentary and feature "brown bag lunches."

March 11 - Thank You Mr. President - speaker to be determined

March 18 - Courting Justice - speaker Jane Lipman/Ruth Cowan (filmmakers)*

**Recommended by Judge Ellen Gesmer*

TBD - Lifting the Veil - speaker: Denise Scotto

*TBD - The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till - speaker:
Judge Eugene Oliver, Jr., to be confirmed.*

TBD - The Killer Within - A Bronx ADA from Mental Health Unit

2) Subcommittee presents new films to new subcommittee members.

We gave new committee members an overview of program...past programs and what we hope to present, plus new ideas welcomed.

(3) Further suggestions/ideas.

-Not Without My Child (feature film)

-My Cousin Vinny (feature film)

-Norma Rae (feature film)

(4) Strategies: How do we publicize our programs at 851 Grand Concourse and 265 East 161st Street???

**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
OF THE 12TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

The Gender Fairness Issues on Film Series

Subcommittee Meeting Agenda
March 6, 2009 - 1:15 P.M.
(265 East 161st Street, Courtroom #540)

AGENDA & DISCUSSION

(1) Planning of documentary and feature "brown bag lunches."

March 18- Thank You Mr. President - speaker to be determined
March 25- Courting Justice - speaker Jane Lipman/Ruth Cowan (filmmakers)*
**Recommended by Judge Ellen Gesmer*
TBD - Lifting the Veil - speaker: Denise Scotto
TBD - The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till - speaker:
Judge Eugene Oliver, Jr., to be confirmed.
TBD - The Killer Within - A Bronx ADA from Mental Health Unit

2) Logistics of presentation in Justice Price's courtroom.

(3) Further suggestions/ideas.

-Not Without My Child (feature film)
-My Cousin Vinny (feature film)
-Norma Rae (feature film)
-Pride & Prejudice - (feature film) - 1940

(4) Strategies: How do we publicize our programs at 851 Grand Concourse and 265 East 161st Street - Determined at 2/19/09 meeting*.

**e-mail throughout Court System and various offices in the Civil, Criminal and Supreme Criminal (ie.; Court Officers, Interpreters, Clerks Offices, Jury Room, Bulletin Boards (as permissable by Steve Clark), Bronx DA's Office, Bronx Legal Aid Society, Bronx Defenders*

Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Sheri S. Roman

Justice, Supreme Court
125-01 Queens Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
718-520-3501



LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2008-2009

Name of the Committee:

NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee

Name and Title of Chair: *Hon. Sheri S. Roman, J.S.C.*

Members - would you attach a list of your members? *see attached*

Dates of Meetings: *April 9, 2008, Sept. 11, 2008, October 23, 2008, October 30, 2008 and 14 telephone/e-mail communications.*

Average Attendance : 7

Do you use Video Conferencing? *No*

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2008

- * A reference table with resource materials was displayed in each of the three Queens Supreme Courthouses throughout the month of October. The pamphlets contained information and statistical data on domestic violence. We tried to collect a variety of pamphlets in different languages to reflect our diverse borough.
- * On October 23, 2008, we hosted a complimentary lunchtime program at the Kew Gardens Courthouse. The guest speakers for the session, entitled "An Update on Recent Domestic Violence Laws and a Discussion of the Queens County Family Justice Center" were:
Hon. Fernando M. Camacho, Presiding Justice, Queens County IDV Court and Scott Kessler, Esq., Bureau Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau, Office of the Queens County District Attorney.
- * We hosted another complimentary lunchtime program promoting Domestic Violence Awareness Month on October 30, 2008, at the Jamaica Courthouse. The guest speaker for the session entitled "Human Trafficking" was: Dorchen A. Leidholdt, Esq., Director of the Center for Battered Women's Legal Services.

Continuing Legal Education credit (Area of Professional Practice: 1 credit hour Transitional and Non-transitional) was offered for both programs. We also provided transportation to and from each of the other courthouses, making it available to all Queens courthouse employees.

Our audiences include attorneys employed in the court system as well as private attorneys, legal aid and assistant district attorneys, courthouse employees, including staff from judges' chambers, court officers, court reporters, court interpreters, court clerks, cashiers, and members of the general public.

Activities for Women's History Month 2009:

We are scheduled to hold a lunchtime program entitled, "Changes in Environmental Law" presented by a St. John's Law Professor (as in previous years) and have also invited a representative of Pace Women's Justice Center to address our participants.

We also sponsored a High School Writing Competition in recognition of Women's History Month. Students wrote a 500 word essay on the topic, "Contest:

In 2009 the National Women's History Project will honor women who have taken the lead in the environmental or "green" movement. We are requesting a 300-500 word essay which will recognize a woman's leadership in protecting the environment on a local, state or national level.

Essays regarding women who are "Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet" can include women who have shown leadership in preserving the natural environment and reversing ecological destruction.

Nominees can be scientists, engineers, business leaders, writers, film makers, conservationists, teachers, community organizers, religious or workplace leaders or others whose lives show exceptional vision and leadership to save our planet.

The essay should include a brief discussion of an environmental law which helps to protect our environment or a law which you would like to have enacted that would benefit."

Four first place winners will receive a cash prize of \$50.00 (that was donated by the Court Attorney's Union), have their winning essay or poem published in the Queens County Bar Association Bar Bulletin, and have the opportunity to sit on the bench with a Supreme Court Justice and observe courtroom proceedings. Each winner will also be presented with an Award Certificate.

Other Activities in the Past Year :

- * We sponsored a **2008 High School Writing Competition** in recognition of Women's History Month. Students wrote a 500 word essay . Four top finalists were presented with an Award Certificate at the Women's History program in the Supreme Court. Students were honored at our second luncheon program for Women's History Month on March 26, 2008. We also recognized women with long term service to Supreme Court at this program with certificates awarded by our Deputy Borough President. Our second program for Women's History Month was "Domestic Violence in the Information Age" with guest speaker Professor Elaine Chiu, Esq. of St. John's University School of Law. The program was held April 9, 2008.

- * **2008 Take Our Daughter and Sons to Work Days**
In April we coordinated the 2-day activity for "Take Our Daughters to Work /Take Our Sons to Work programs. Youngsters were invited to partake in a continental breakfast as they listened to court representatives discuss careers in the courts. They were then taken on building tour, after which they participated in a mock trial competition .

- * **2008 Dress for Success Women's Clothing Drive**
A three-day Women's Clothing Drive with the Queens County Women's Bar Association was held November 24, 2008 through December 5, 2008. Clothing was collected for donation to the DRESS FOR SUCCESS organization.

What are your plans for next year?

Enlarge committee; Women in Queens court recognition for 30 + years of service program

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important this year?

As always, respect for the individual as well as continuation of problem-solving courts such as IDV

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women? Do you see unmet training needs?

Court-wide sensitivity training would be quite valuable.

What do you see as the most pressing unmet needs or operational problems in Family Court?

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?

Year round dissemination of publications to enable us to provide them on our display tables for October's Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Please return this form by April 3, 2009, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, 25 Beaver St.,
Rm 878, New York, NY 10004, 212-428-2793 (Fax) Jgoodman@Courts.state.ny.us

HON. SHERI ROMAN





NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee
Hon. Sheri S. Roman, Chairperson

2008-2009 Committee Members

SUSAN BEBERFALL, ESQ.	Associate Court Attorney
MAUREEN CRESCIMANNO	Secretary to Judge
JAMES DOLLIN, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
HON. PHYLLIS ORLIKOFF FLUG	Supreme Court Justice
LT. LYNNE FRANZONE	Lietutenant, Security Operations
DELORES HAYNES	Secretary to Judge
SCO SGT. DIXON KIM	Sergeant, Security Operations
DENNIS LEBWOHL, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
LT. THOMAS McELLIGOTT	Lietutenant, Security Operations
M .J. MEZZINA, ESQ.	Associate Court Attorney
LESLIE NIZIN, ESQ.	Attorney, Private Practice
O. RUSS RODRIGUEZ	Court Clerk Specialist
HON. SHERI S. ROMAN	Supreme Court Justice, Committee Chair
HON. PATRICIA SATTERFIELD	Supreme Court Justice
THERESA SILKIE	Principal Court Reporter
KATHLEEN S. WARD, ESQ.	Principal Law Clerk to Judge
THERESA WILSON	Secretary to Judge

The New York State Supreme Court
Queens County Gender Fairness Committee
In recognition of
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
present:

* * * * *

KAREN KOSLOWITZ,

Deputy Borough President

Honors

**Women with Long Term Service to
Queens Supreme Court**

* * * * *

plus...

Students Making History:

Winners of the 2008

Queens High School Essay Contest

Wednesday March 26, 2008

1:00 TO 2:00 P.M.

Queens County Courthouse
88-11 Sutphin Boulevard , Jamaica , New York 11435
5th floor conference room

FREE - LUNCH WILL BE SERVED!

TRANSPORTATION: available from Kew Gardens & LIC Courthouses

R.S.V.P. Required by MARCH 24TH

Call (718) 298-1441

(Justice Sheri Roman's chambers)

all are welcome !!!

NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee
Queens County Civil Court Gender Fairness Committee

Women's History Month Program:

"DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE INFORMATION AGE

Wednesday, April 9, 2008, 1:00-2:00PM

8th Floor Conference Room (Room 832), Kew Gardens Courthouse, 125-01 Queens Boulevard Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Professor Elaine Chiu, Esq.

Associate Professor of Law, St. John's University School of Law

All Are Welcome!!!

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED - - TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE
from Jamaica & L.I.C. Courthouses

CLE CREDIT:

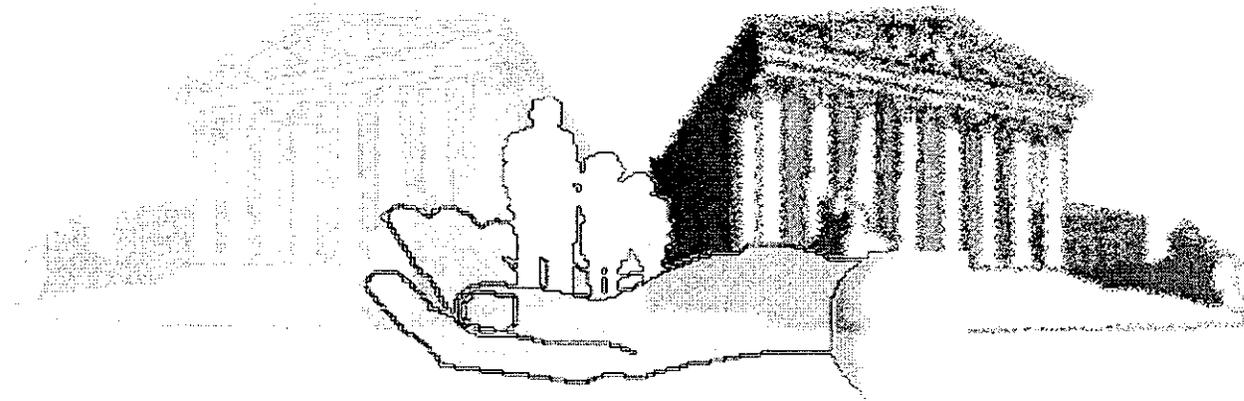
1.0 Hour of Continuing Legal Education credit will be offered for this session
(transitional & non-transitional appropriate for both newly admitted and experienced attorneys).
The cost of this program is \$5.00 to cover lunch costs.

This program is FREE for those who do not wish CLE Credit

R.S.V.P. NECESSARY By Monday, April 7th

For info. & TO REGISTER, CALL (718) 298-1441 (Chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman)

TAKE OUR SONS TO



WORK DAY

Sponsored by
Queens County Criminal Court &
Queens County Supreme Court

Ages 8 to 16 years

When: THURSDAY, April 24th, 2008

Time: 8:45 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

Drop-off: 8:45 A.M. @ 8th Floor Boardroom # 832
125-01 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens

Pick-up: 1:00 P.M. @ 8th Floor Boardroom

----- R.S.V.P. -----

Call: 718-298-1600 (OPERATIONS - COURT OFFICER JAMES RIECKER)

REGISTER BY TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2008

REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY !!!!

Queens Criminal Court
Queens Supreme Court

TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS TO WORK DAY

Ages 8 to 16 years



WHEN: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23rd, 2008
8:45 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

WHERE: 125-01 Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens NY 11415

DROP-OFF: 8TH Floor Boardroom@ 8:45 A.M. (Room # 832)

PICK-UP: Part K-18 @1:00 P.M.
(Room # E321 - ANNEX)

R.S.V.P: REGISTER BY MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2008
298-1441 (JUSTICE ROMAN'S CHAMBERS)

Registration is necessary !!!!

NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee
Domestic Violence Awareness Month Program:

**“An Update on Recent Domestic Violence Laws and a
Discussion of the Queens County Family Justice Center”**

Thursday, October 23, 2008, 1:00-2:00PM

8th Floor Conference Room (Room 832), Kew Gardens Courthouse, 125-01 Queens Boulevard Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Guest Speakers:

Hon. Fernando M. Camacho, Presiding Justice, Queens County IDV Court

Scott E. Kessler, Esq., Bureau Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau
Office of the Queens County District Attorney

FREE- LUNCH WILL BE SERVED -- TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE
(from Jamaica & L.I.C. Courthouses)

CLE CREDIT: 1.0 Hour of Continuing Legal Education credit will be offered for this session. The cost of this program is \$5.00 for CLE credit.

For Info. & TO REGISTER, CALL (718) 298-1441 (Chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman)

Registration deadline- Tues Oct 21st!!!

All are welcome!!



New York City Family Justice Center
126-02 82nd Avenue
Kew Gardens, New York 11415

Following is a list of services available at the New York City Family Justice Center in Queens (QFJC). All information is kept confidential, however those services marked with an asterisk () are mandated reporters of child abuse and/or neglect, and are required to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect to the proper authorities. The QFJC is an initiative of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence, in partnership with the Queens County District Attorney's Office.*

Case Managers *

The case managers work for a range of community organizations, speak many languages and represent many cultures. They give clients information about the services at the QFJC, help them decide which services they wish to access, and provide clients with on-going case management help.

Police *

There are two Domestic Violence Prevention Officers from the New York City Police Department who can speak with clients if they want to report a crime or want information on how the police can help them stay safe.

Probation *

If the person who abused the client is on probation, a Probation Officer can assist the client in finding the name and telephone number of the abuser's Supervising Probation Officer. The Probation Officer can also answer any questions the client may have about probation.

The District Attorney's Office (DA) *

The Domestic Violence Bureau of the DA is located at the QFJC and specializes in prosecuting domestic violence abusers. DA staff can also answer questions about the criminal justice process and orders of protection.

Therapeutic Counseling *

Counseling is available from licensed professionals from a variety of organizations providing clients with additional emotional support.

Elder Abuse Services *

Social workers and lawyers are available to assist any client age 60 years and older who are being abused. These workers provide emergency counseling, direct services, and other information regarding services for the elderly.

Legal Information on Family Matters, Immigration & Divorce

Lawyers and paralegals are available to meet with clients to provide information and referrals. They assist clients in understanding their legal rights and may be able to assist with family law (custody, visitation, child support, spousal support, orders of protection), matrimonial, or immigration matters, such as visa information or employment authorization.

Self-Sufficiency Services

Self-Sufficiency services include information and referrals for on-site and off-site educational training (General Education Development and English as a Second Language classes), job training and placement, public benefits (Welfare, Food Stamps, Medicaid), client rights at work, and childcare.

Children's Services *

Children 3 and older can spend time with a child specialist in the Children's Room where organized play activities are available during the day, while the parent receives services on-site.

In an emergency call 911; for general questions about domestic violence services, please call the NYC 24-hour domestic violence hotline 1-800-621-HOPE or 311.

NYS SUPREME COURT QUEENS COUNTY
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
Domestic Violence Awareness Month Program

" HUMAN TRAFFICKING "

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2008 1:00--2:00 P.M.

Jamaica Courthouse 88-11 Sutphin Blvd. Jamaica, NY 11435

GUEST SPEAKER:

DORCHEN A. LEIDHOLDT, ESQ.,

Director, Center for Battered Women's Legal Services

all are welcome !!

FREE !

Lunch Will Be Served !!

R.S.V.P. REQUIRED By Tuesday October 28th

For info.& TO REGISTER, CALL (718) 298-1441

(Chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman)

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE - from Kew Gardens & LIC Courthouses

CLE CREDIT: 1.0 Hour of Continuing Legal Education credit will be offered for this session. The cost of this program is \$5.00 for CLE credit.

APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION OF THIS PROGRAM IN NEW YORK IS CURRENTLY PENDING.

UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND ASSISTING VICTIMS

Dorchen A. Leidholdt, Esq.
Sanctuary for Families
Coalition Against Trafficking in Women

Understanding Human Trafficking and Assisting Victims
Dorchen A. Leidholdt, Esq.
Sanctuary for Families
Coalition Against Trafficking in Women
October 30, 2008

2. Sanctuary for Families

Sanctuary for Families is a leading New York City provider of legal, clinical, and residential services to victims of domestic violence and their children.

3. Sanctuary for Families

Over the last two decades Sanctuary has assisted a growing number of victims of human trafficking, many of whom have also been subjected to domestic violence. (Anti-trafficking poster from Eastern Europe. It reads, "They are not toys.")

4. The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW)

Founded in 1983, CATW is an international NGO with consultative status to the UN's ECOSOC. CATW is made up of regional networks in Asia-Pacific, Latin America-Caribbean, Africa, Europe, and North America.

CATW conducts research into trafficking; advocates for legislation on the local, national, regional, and international levels; and supports education and victim services projects around the world.

5. Experiencing trafficking: eight victims' stories

- Katerina from Russia (international sex trafficking, organized crime)
- Belen from Venezuela (international sex trafficking, boyfriend)
- Chantal from New York City (domestic sex trafficking, husband/pimp)
- Anh from Korean

6. Experiencing trafficking: eight victims' stories

- Olga from the Ukraine (international labor trafficking)
- Mario from Mexico (international labor trafficking)
- Renee from Haiti (Restevек child international labor trafficking)
- Anna from Atlanta (domestic minor child sex trafficking)

7. Trafficking Overview

Each year 15,000 to 18,000 people are trafficked into the U.S. (FBI).

At least 25 times this number are trafficked internally.

These statistics do not include practices of "disguised trafficking."

Between 9,500 to 14,500 internet brides are brought into the U.S. each year.

There are approximately 500 internet bride agencies operating in the U.S. (Center for Human Rights 2006).

8. Trafficking into the U.S.

State Department research shows that the women and children trafficked each year into the U.S. come from three primary areas:

- The greatest number/percentage come from Southeast Asia (China, Thailand, Vietnam);
- The second largest number come from Latin America (Mexico, Brazil, D.R. Honduras).
- The rest come from Eastern Europe (Russia, the Ukraine, the Czech Republic).

9. **Push Factors and Victims' Vulnerability: social, political, and economic conditions**
 - Poverty, e.g., migrant workers from Latin America
 - Gender, racial, and ethnic discrimination, e.g., sex trafficking victims from Eastern Europe.
 - Gender, racial, and ethnic violence, e.g., runaway youth in the U.S.
 - Civil unrest and armed conflict, e.g., Bosnian survivors of ethnic cleansing.
 - Natural disasters, e.g., Hurricane Katrina victims, Indonesian survivors of the tsunami.

10. **Pull factors and Demand**
 - Global demand for sexual exploitation, especially prostitution.
 - Global demand for cheap labor and products.

11. **Physical consequences of trafficking**
 - Direct physical injury, e.g., bruises, broken bones, lacerations, traumatic brain injury
 - Indirect physical injury, e.g., chronic headaches, pervasive body aches, feelings of dizziness
 - Insomnia and disrupted sleep patterns
 - Damage to reproductive and uro-genital systems; STDs, HIV, AIDS
 - Drug and alcohol dependency
 - Unwanted pregnancy

12. **Psychological consequences of trafficking**
 - High levels of anxiety
 - Minimization/denial
 - Numbness/flattened affect
 - Memory loss
 - Depression
 - Dissociation
 - Post-traumatic stress disorder

13. **Psychological consequences of trafficking**
 - Traumatic bonding with traffickers
 - Mistrust and suspicion of authorities and service providers
 - Shame, self-blame
 - Self-medication (drug, alcohol abuse)
 - Eating disorders

14. **Implications for interviewing victims**
 - Victims may not realize that their rights have been violated
 - Victims may downplay or fail to disclose tactics of force, fraud, or coercion
 - Victims may have trouble remembering dates and details
 - Victims may not disclose the full story until they have established a relationship of trust with the interviewer—may take many meetings
 - Victims may be unaware of important personal information

15. **Implications for interviewing victims**
 - Victims may view social and legal service providers with suspicion and mistrust
 - Victims may recite a script given to them by their traffickers
 - Victims may have been “seasoned” by their traffickers
 - Victims may fear that social or legal service providers will disclose confidential information to traffickers or law enforcement personnel

16. Implications for interviewing victims

When the victim is an immigrant, ask questions about immigration status with sensitivity: not “Are you undocumented?” but “We may be able to help you with your immigration legal needs.”

When you suspect that the victim was trafficked into prostitution, understand that she will probably suffer from feelings of isolation, shame, and self-blame.

Sex trafficking victims often experience prostitution as rape. Don’t ask a question that implies that it is sex or work: e.g., “Was sex a part of your job?”

17. Minor sex trafficking within the United States

In the U.S., the average age of entry into prostitution is 13.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children estimates that up to 293,000 U.S. children and youth are victims of sex trafficking.

18. Minor sex trafficking within the United States

Nationally 450,000 young people run away from home each year. Up to 90% of these runaways will be commercially sexually exploited (NISMART).

1 out of 3 will be lured into prostitution within 48 hours of leaving home (Estes & Weiner).

19. Sex Tourism Overview

The reverse of sex trafficking and part of the trafficking chain, sex tourism increases demand. Sex tourists travel to developing countries, primarily in the global South and East.

20. Sex Tourism

Facilitated by the Internet.

\$1 billion-dollar a year business.

United States citizens make up an estimated 25% of sex tourists worldwide (ECPAT).

21. Trafficking as a gender-based violation of human rights

The vast majority of trafficking victims in the U.S., as many as 80%, are women and girls (U.S. State Dept).

Of these, the majority (the State Dept. estimates 70%), are trafficked for purposes of sexual exploitation.

Women and girls trafficked for labor exploitation frequently encounter and endure sexual violence.

22. Dynamics of trafficking

The dynamics of human trafficking mirror the dynamics of power and control that characterize domestic violence.

The often subtle tactics used by recruiters, traffickers, and their agents are often the same as the tactics used by batterers.

23. Dynamics of DV and Trafficking

See Chart

24. Traffickers are perpetrators of psychological torture (Amnesty International definition)

Isolation of the victim

Induced debility, producing exhaustion, weakness, or fatigue, e.g. sleep or food deprivation

Monopolization of perception, including obsessiveness and possessiveness

Threats of harm to the victim or her family and friends and other forms of threat

25. **Traffickers are perpetrators of psychological torture (Amnesty International definition)**
 Degradation, including humiliation, name-calling and insults, and denial of privacy or personal hygiene
 Forced drug or alcohol use
 Altered states of consciousness
 Occasional random and variable reinforcers or indulgences, partial reinforcers that keep alive the hope that the torture will cease
26. **Profiling traffickers in the U.S.**
 Organized crime rings
 Family and community members, e.g. the Carrettos
 “Mom and Pop” operations
 Employment agencies
 Farmers and their employees
 Husbands and boyfriends
 Pimps
 Diplomats and wealthy compatriots
 Former trafficking victims
27. **Sex trafficking and demand**
 The demand of prostitution buyers provides the economic incentive for international sex trafficking.
 There is growing consensus that addressing “demand” is key to the prevention of sex trafficking.
28. **Demand is global and local**
 “Demand is both a local and a global problem. It is global in the sense that it drives international sex trafficking and violates fundamental human rights. . . . Yet it is local in the sense that it is happening everywhere—in our own villages, towns, cities—mostly carried out by men who are part of the core fabric of our local communities.” Sigma Huda
29. **Demand is global and local**
 On March 12, 2008, New York State’s Governor, Elliot Spitzer, resigned after he was exposed as a long time patronizer of prostituted women.
30. **Sweden’s approach**
 In the mid 1990’s, Sweden had become a major destination point for young women who were being trafficked across its borders and into its local brothels and strip clubs.
 In 1999 Sweden enacted laws directing strong penalties against pimps, brothel owners, and traffickers; eliminated criminal penalties against prostituted people; funded services to victims; and required the arrest and prosecution of buyers.
31. **Sweden’s approach**
 At the same time, Sweden initiated a public education campaign against demand.
 The Swedish model has influenced other jurisdictions: Philippines, South Korea, Norway, and New York State.

32. Sex trafficking and demand: Atlanta's approach

In 2005, the FBI identified Atlanta, Georgia as a major national hotspot for all forms of sexual exploitation of young people.

Within the last year, you see more and more girls out on the streets, and it is because so many pimps are coming into the city from other locations and other states. Their thing is to put the juveniles to work on the streets. They feel that the money is here in the city. They are flocking here in droves.

- Sgt. D.M. Williams, Atlanta Police Department

33. Atlanta's approach

There are approximately 40 "adult" clubs in the metro Atlanta area.

Until 2001, the pimping of a minor in Georgia was classified as a misdemeanor payable by a \$50 fine. Prostitution-related activities take place around most public schools in Atlanta.

34. Atlanta's approach

In 2006, Atlanta's mayor Shirley Franklin initiated a campaign to combat the city's prostitution industry. The campaign aggressively addresses demand.

Among those held responsible for Atlanta's burgeoning prostitution industry was Craigslist.

35. Atlanta's approach

In 2004, Atlanta created the Human Trafficking Detection Program, including a Child Exploitation Unit and an Anti-Trafficking Unit.

Prosecutors have started to bring felony charges against pimps.

Human trafficking in Atlanta is now a felony and carries a sentence of 5 to 20 years plus asset forfeiture.

36. Trafficking defined: What is trafficking?

The Trafficking Protocol to the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, contains the first internationally agreed upon definition of human trafficking.

37. Trafficking defined

"Trafficking in persons" is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception

38. Trafficking defined

...of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation...

39. Trafficking defined

Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. . . .

40. Trafficking defined

The consent of a victim of trafficking to the intended exploitation ... shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in [above] have been used.

41. **Trafficking defined**
The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in persons” even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article. “Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.
42. **The UN Trafficking Protocol**
Prioritizes trafficking in women and children.
Criminalizes trafficking.
Provides assistance & protection to victims.
Seeks to prevent trafficking through international cooperation and information sharing.
43. **The UN Trafficking Protocol**
November 2000: adopted by the United Nations General Assembly
December 2003: the Trafficking Protocol entered into force
November 2005: the U.S. became the 90th country to ratify both the UN Convention and the Trafficking Protocol
44. **The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)**
The U.S. legislative response to trafficking—the TVPA— was passed and signed into law in 2000.
Promotes “3 P’s”: prevention, protection, and prosecution.
Creates a new federal crime of trafficking and increases penalties for existing offenses.
Imposes strong penalties against traffickers.
45. **The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)**
Criminal penalties address only “severe forms of trafficking”:
Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion or in which the victim is under 18
Labor trafficking—the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion.
46. **The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA): Reauthorization**
Requirement of proof of “force, fraud, or coercion” has limited prosecutions of sex traffickers: only 20 each year nationally.
Wilberforce Act would create a new crime of sex trafficking with a lower level of proof: “recruits, induces, entices.”
47. **The Trafficking Victims Protection Act**
Establishes a “Tier System” that ranks other countries’ response to trafficking. The “Tier System” cuts nonhumanitarian aid to those in the highest level, Tier 3.
Creates a Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Office to monitor national and international responses to trafficking.
Creates programs to assist trafficking victims in the U.S. and overseas.
48. **The Trafficking Victims Protection Act**
Provides T visas for cooperating victims who have been subjected to “severe trafficking” and face “extreme hardship” if removed to their home countries. The government can issue up to 5,000 T Visas a year

49. **Other remedies for immigrant trafficking victims**

If married to U.S. citizens or permanent residents: battered spouse waivers or VAWA self-petitions.
If cooperating with investigation or prosecution of exploiters: U-Visas.
If facing persecution in countries of origin: asylum.

50. **New York's new anti-trafficking law**

In 2005 50 NYS organizations united as the New York State Anti-Trafficking Coalition.
It called for a strong and effective legal framework that:
-Imposes meaningful penalties. Human trafficking must be prosecuted as a serious felony offense.
-Contains a comprehensive definition. Traffickers use a wide range of techniques to control their victims.

51. **New York's new anti-trafficking law**

Deters demand. Sex trafficking flourishes because of the demand. An effective anti-trafficking law must raise penalties on those who patronize illegal commercial sex, especially underage prostitution. Penalizes sex tourism. New York needs a strong law making it clear that sex tour businesses are prohibited from operating here.

52. **New York's new anti-trafficking law**

Went into effect on November 1, 2007.
Makes sex trafficking a B Felony with a sentence of up to 25 years incarceration.
Raises the penalties for prostitution buyers.
Considered the strongest state anti-trafficking law in U.S.

53. **Safe Harbor Act**

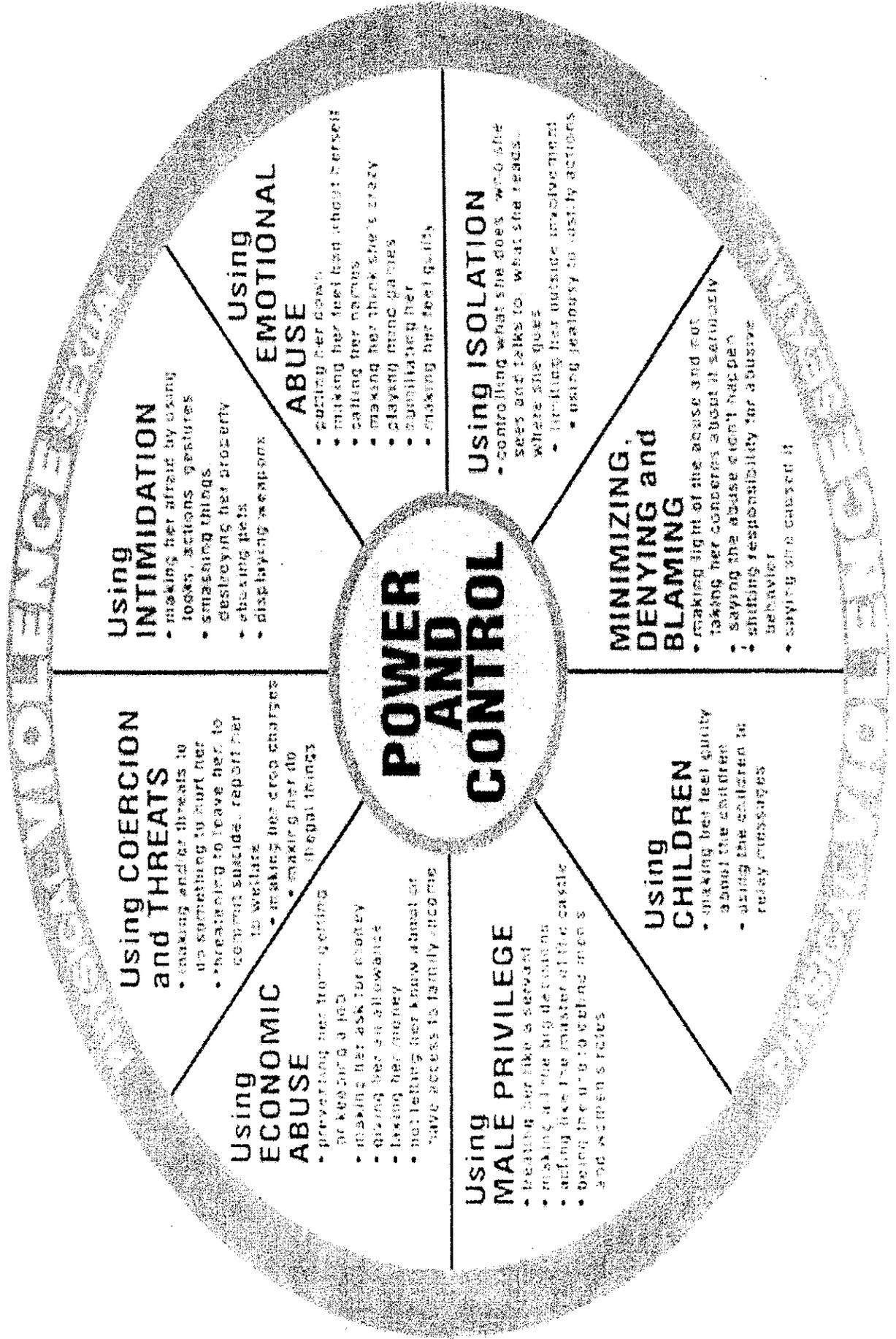
Historically, victims of sex trafficking in New York State 15 and younger have been prosecuted as juvenile delinquents and placed in juvenile jails.

This law, signed by Gov. Patterson in September, will ensure that trafficked children are given refuge in safe houses and provided with services. (Photo, Rachel Lloyd, Founder and Executive Director of Girls Education Mentoring Services, with a teenage survivor of sex trafficking.)

54. **More information about trafficking**

New York State: www.stophumantraffickingny.org
U.S. Government: www.state.gov/g/tip/
International: www.catwinternational.org
www.equalitynow.org

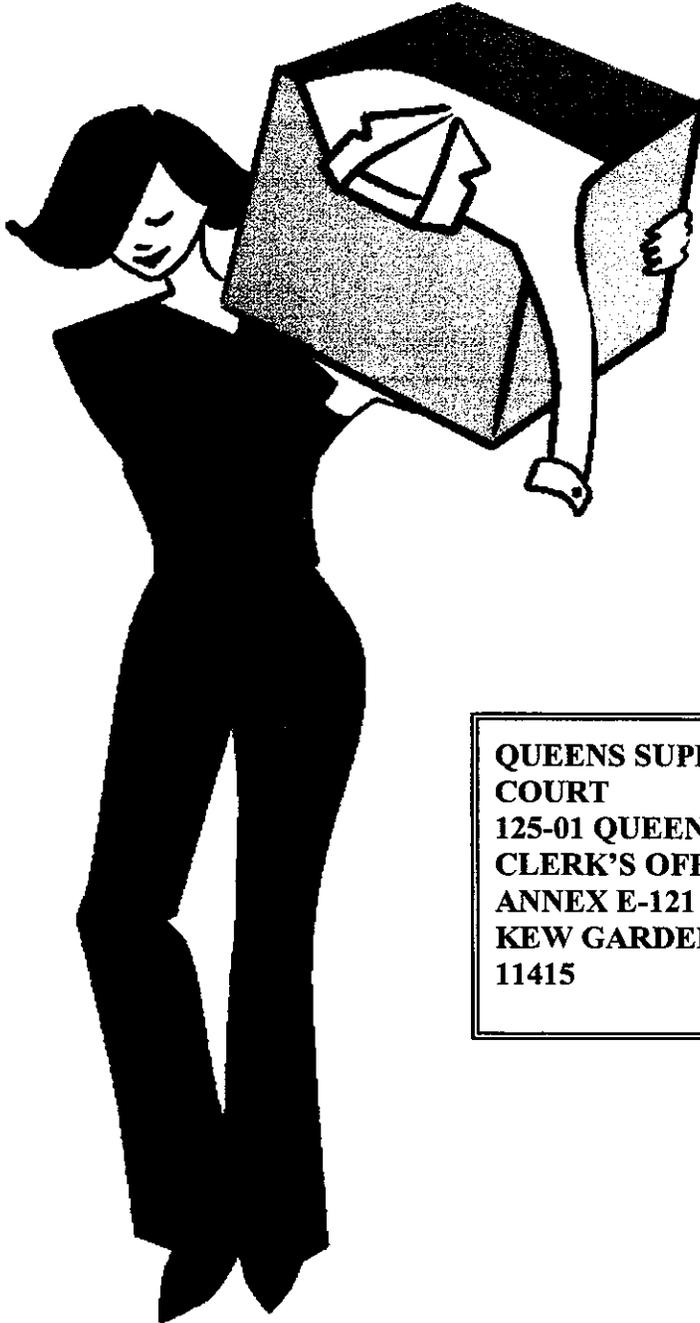
Dynamics of DV and Trafficking



THE QUEENS COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
Announces



DRESS FOR SUCCESS®
Suits to Self-Sufficiency



Date: NOV 24 TO DEC 5
Time: 10 AM to 4 PM

NEEDED:

Interview Attire
Suits (on hangers) , Shoes,
Handbags, Blouses, Pantyhose
(especially 0-4 and Plus Sizes)

**QUEENS SUPREME
COURT**
125-01 QUEENS BLVD.
CLERK'S OFFICE,
ANNEX E-121
KEW GARDENS, NY
11415

QUEENS CIVIL COURT
89-17 SUTPHIN
BOULEVARD.
JAMAICA, NY 11435
ATTORNEY'S ROOM
(BEHIND SMALL CLAIMS
COURT)

**Special Thanks to the Queens County Supreme
Court, Civil Court and Criminal Court Gender
Fairness Committees, and all our Court Clerks and
Personnel**

Any Questions or Comments please call
Kathy Ward 718.298.1336 or *Linda Povman* 718.261.6408

NYS Supreme Court Queens County Gender Fairness Committee

Women's History Month Program:

***“Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet:
New Issues in Environmental Law”***

Tuesday, April 7, 2009 1:00-2:00PM

8th Floor Conference Room, Kew Gardens Courthouse

Guest Speaker:

***Professor Mary Lyndon, Professor Of Environmental Law,
St. John's University School of Law***

CLE CREDIT: 1.0 Hour of Continuing Legal Education credit will be offered for this session.

CLE credit is \$5.00 (optional if lunch requested)

***LUNCH WILL BE SERVED -- TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE
(from Jamaica & L.I.C. Courthouses)***

For Info. & TO REGISTER, CALL (718) 298-1441 (Chambers of Hon. Sheri S. Roman)

Registration deadline- April 6, 2009

All are welcome!!!



Supreme Court Kings County Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Gloria M. Dabiri

Supreme Court
360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
347-296-1031



**SUPREME COURT KINGS COUNTY
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2008-2009**

1. NAME OF THE COMMITTEE.

Supreme Court Kings County Gender Fairness Committee

2. NAME AND TITLE OF CHAIR.

Gloria M. Dabiri, Justice, New York State Supreme Court

3. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Hon. Rachel Adams
Hon. Betsy Barros
Hon. Bernadette Bayne
Hon. Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix
Hon. Sarah Krauss
Hon. Karen B. Rothenberg
Hon. Robin Sheares
Hon. Marsha Steinhardt
Hon. Nancy Sunshine
Hon. Delores Thomas
Hon. Albert Tomei
Hon. Michelle Weston
Loretta Argiro
Major Luz Bryan
Lisa Cruz

Julie DiPalma
Lucinda DiSalvo
Donna Farrell
Noel Hinds
James Imperatrice
Dina James
Izetta Johnson
Thomas Kilfoyle
Major Eric Long
Yvonne Marin, Esq.
Jeanette Mercedes, Esq.
Roderick E. Randall
Leah Richardson
Noreen Soto-Fier, Esq.
Evelyn Stewart

4. DATES OF MEETINGS.

April 8, 2008, September 16, 2008, September 30, 2008, October 20, 2008,
January 28, 2009, February 19, 2009, March 2, 2009, March 9, 2009,
March 31, 2009, April 23, 2009.

- **Average Attendance** — 13 to 7
- **Video Conferencing** — No

5. ACTIVITIES FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH 2008.

- a. **Elder Empowerment Conference.** On October 24, 2008, in conjunction with the New York State Judicial Institute, the Office of the Kings County District Attorney, the New York City Department for the Aging and others, the Committee held its first **Elder Empowerment Conference**. More than 200

senior citizens, service providers and advocates for the elderly attended. Judges, attorneys and clerks working in the Guardianship Part of the Supreme Court also participated. This initiative was a response by the Committee to several widely reported assaults upon older citizens in New York City during the summer of 2008. A stellar group of experts were assembled to discuss issues of vital importance to older citizens, including protecting themselves against physical and emotional abuse, real property scams and identity theft, understanding Surrogate Court and guardianship proceedings, accessing social services and ensuring physical and emotional well-being [see program agenda attached].

Committee members reached out to senior citizen centers, AARP chapters and churches throughout Brooklyn in order to enroll seniors. Community leaders and churches provided bus transportation to the Judicial Institute in White Plains. A continental breakfast and lunch was provided. The response to the Conference was extremely positive, and the Committee has been invited by community leaders to conduct a second Conference in October 2009. A recording of the program is available for use by senior centers.

A subcommittee lead by Justice Dabiri, Izetta Johnson, Noel Hinds, Dina James and Yvonne Marin spearheaded this effort. However, each Committee member contributed to its success (see program annexed). Conference co-sponsors included the 9th Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts, chaired by the Hon. Terry J. Ruderman, the Brooklyn Family Justice Center, and the Jewish Association for Services for the Aged. A letter of appreciation was received from several officials including New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo.

What follows is a sampling of written evaluations by conference attendees: "very informative"; "[Do] the speakers have tapes . . . we can have as our own to listen to at home. To share"; "This Empowerment Conference has taught us a lot. Thank you! Thank you!"; "Very important to the community . . . thank you for your hard work"; [would like a] "CD to take home"; "Great day! learned a lot"; "The speakers were extremely knowledgeable . . . and provided references . . . to use following conference." "Yearly/periodic conferences are beneficial to keep track of changes or new services."

- b. **Book Drive.** The Committee, for the second year, collected books for families residing in Domestic Violence Centers. Some 300 books for children and adults were donated by court personnel, with the expectation that shelter residents will take the books with them when they leave and begin home libraries. The book drive was lead by committee member Loretta Argiro of the County Clerks Office. [see, letter from Center Against Domestic Violence attached]



THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEES
OF KINGS COUNTY SUPREME & FAMILY COURTS
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NYS JUDICIAL INSTITUTE
PRESENTS IN RECOGNITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH 2008

Elder Empowerment Conference

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2008

New York State Judicial Institute
at Pace University
84 North Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603
(914) 824-5800
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST &
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Co-Sponsored By:

Brooklyn Family Justice Center
Brooklyn Borough President's Office
Jewish Association for Services
for the Aged (JASA)
Kings County Clerk's Office
Kings County District Attorney's Office
Kings County Supreme & Family Courts
Ninth Judicial District Committee to
Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts
NYC Department for the Aging

Directions By Car:

Take I-276 E./B.Q.E. ramp to the Lake Bridge
Take exit 47 for Major Deegan/I-87 N. towards Albany
Take exit 8 onto Cross Westchester Expy
towards White Plains
Take exit 6 for Rt. 22 towards
White Plains/K. White Plains
Turn right at N Broadway

By Metro-North RR:

From Grand Central Station
Board MTA Metro-North Harlem Line To
White Plains Station
Go to White Plains Transcenter, Lane C for
1-Bus/Stanford Express to Main & Broadway

Seniors often appear as soft targets for criminals, falling prey to those who may cruelly take advantage of them. Older Americans have the right to live safely with dignity, independence and without abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Conference Sessions:

Surrogate Court, Wills, Trusts and Estates

Surrogate Diana A. Johnson
Surrogate Margarita Lopez-Torres

Domestic Elder Abuse

Arlene M. Markarian, Esq.
Chief, Elder Abuse Unit – Kings County District Attorney

Article 81 / Guardianships

Justice Betsy Barros
Supreme Court Kings County

Financial Exploitation, Real Property Theft & Scams

Donna Dougherty, Esq.
Jewish Association for Services for the Aged (JASA)

Internet Security & Identity Theft

Frank Laghezza, Esq.
Assistant to the District Attorney, Kings County

Medical Issues Concerning the Elderly

Joseph J. Tartaglia MD, FACC

Guest Speaker: Arlette Sanford - NYS Regent (retired)

Luncheon Speaker: Senator Velmanette Montgomery

Please call 347-296-1581,
no later than Oct. 16th
to confirm your attendance.

Discussion Panel

- ~ Prof. Ann Goldweber - St. John's University School of Law
- ~ Comm. Mae Carpenter - Westchester County Department for the Aged
- ~ Judith McCarthy, Esq. - NYS Office of the Attorney General
- ~ Aurora Salamone - NYC Department for the Aging
- ~ Ronald Fatoullah, Esq. - Senior Umbrella Network
- ~ Peter J. Strauss, Esq. - Professor, New York Law School

Conference Moderator:

Justice Gloria M. Dabiri
Supreme Court Kings County - Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

This conference is designed for seniors, service providers and advocates.
We are asking senior citizen centers to send staff and seniors
as delegates to represent your facility.

Elder Abuse

The signs and symptoms of elder abuse are similar to those of other forms of domestic violence and may include physical violence, sexual assault, emotional and/or psychological abuse, and financial abuse. Senior citizens who are abused may also face financial abuse and exploitation, abandonment, and neglect.

Victims of elder abuse face unique challenges:

- Social isolation and mental impairment (such as dementia or Alzheimer's disease) are two factors that may make an older person more vulnerable to abuse.
- Victims may be totally or partially dependent on the abuser for daily care needs, including meals, mobility, and access to funds and medication. And in some cases the abuser is dependent on the victim for shelter, money, and food.
- Living with someone who has a mental health issue such as an addiction to drugs or alcohol or who is mentally ill may increase the chances for abuse to occur.
- Elder abuse victims may experience shame, fear, embarrassment, anxiety, confusion, withdrawal, and depression.

To exert power and control, the abuser may:

- Inappropriately use drugs and physical restraints to punish the older person.
- Treat the elder like a child.
- Isolate the elderly person from family, friends, or regular activities.
- Refuse or fail to provide life necessities such as meals and water, clothing, shelter, personal hygiene care, medication, comfort, and personal safety.
- Desert the elderly person.
- Illegally or improperly use the elder's funds, property, or assets.
- Withhold attention and affection, or deny access to grandchildren in order to get the older person to comply with the abuser's wishes.

How does New York City help victims of elder abuse?

Legal Rights

In New York City, it is against the law to intentionally cause physical injury to someone or put someone in fear of physical injury. Victims of elder abuse that are in danger should call 911 or have a friend or neighbor call 911 immediately. Victims may also go to the nearest police station for help.

Hotlines

New York City's 24-hour, toll-free, all-language Domestic Violence Hotline can help older victims of domestic violence find appropriate support and shelter services. The domestic violence hotline maintains a comprehensive list of service agencies in New York City to meet the specific needs of all victims. For more information, please call the hotline at 800-621-HOPE (4673). *If you are a victim of domestic violence, call 311 and ask for the NYC Domestic Violence Hotline (800-621-4673; TDD 866-604-5350).*

The New York City Department for the Aging (DFTA)

The New York City Department for the Aging (DFTA) works to ensure the empowerment, independence, dignity, and quality of life of the City's diverse older adults and to provide support to their families through advocacy, education, and the coordination and delivery of services.

DFTA also works with community organizations to provide home-based supportive counseling, replacement of stolen documents, and assistance with New York State Crime Victim's Board applications. The agency also provides entitlement information, referral services, small emergency cash awards, lock replacements, and gates.

Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center

DFTA's Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center has been assisting elder abuse victims since 1986. The Resource Center's primarily bilingual caseworkers provide telephone consultation to professionals who assist abused elders. Caseworkers also provide counseling services to victims of abuse. The Resource Center receives referrals from community agencies, hospitals, physicians, attorneys, and the general public. For help, please call 212-442-3103 or 212-442-1000.

Elder Abuse Training for Law Enforcement

The NYC Elder Abuse Project has created training curricula for police, prosecutors, and court personnel on the identification, investigation, and prosecution of elder abuse crimes, including financial abuse.

5. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH 2008

b. BOOK DRIVE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

TRANSFORMING LIVES

December 18, 2008

Ms. Loretta Argiro
360 Adams Street, Room 156
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Dear Ms. Argiro:

The residents, board and staff of the Center Against Domestic Violence send our heartfelt gratitude for your December 18, 2008 donation of four boxes of books for the families who reside at our shelter.

We cannot thank you enough. We are especially grateful for your thoughtfulness. Your commitment and support in helping battered women and their children has served as a true inspiration and has also reinforced our faith in our society.

The Center Against Domestic Violence, is a not for profit corporation under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and your contribution is deductible to the extent allowed by law. This letter serves as a record of your gift and should be retained for tax purposes.

Sincerely,



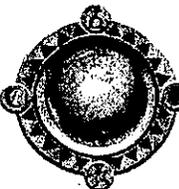
Judith Kahan
(CEO)

Judith Kahan
Chief Executive Officer
C.A.D.V. Central Office

6. WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
b. RECYCLING PROGRAM

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

*presented by the
King's County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee*

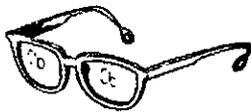
Women Taking The Lead  **To Save Our Planet**

Three Easy Ways You Can Help

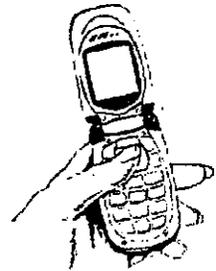
DONATE USED GLASSES

Lions Club Recycle For Sight program distributes prescription or non-prescription glasses / sunglasses to people around the world in need.

www.lionsclubs.org



DONATE USED
CELL PHONES
SO THAT
FAMILIES STAY
CONNECTED.



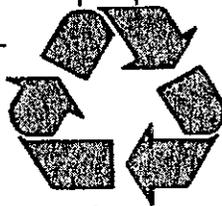
Cellphones For Soldiers - Calling Card Project uses old phones to purchase calling cards for U.S. soldiers stationed abroad.

www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com

**DROP OFF
GLASSES AND
PHONES AT WORK
UNTIL APRIL 3, 2009**

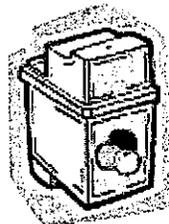
**360 Adams Street:
Operations Room 848B**

**320 Jay Street: Operations
14th Floor & Mail Room 13.67**



The plastic used in typical ink jet or laser cartridge takes 1,000 years to decompose!

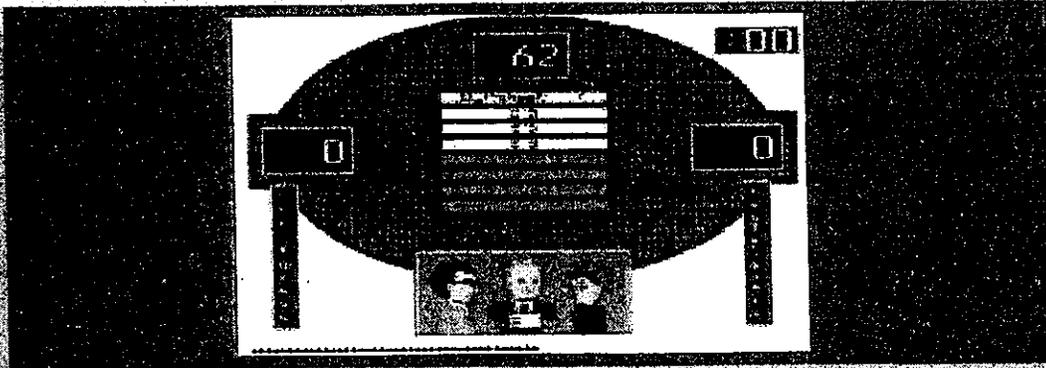
Instructions in the box of your new laser or ink jet cartridge tells how to recycle used cartridges. Many companies provide packaging materials and free postage to recycle old cartridges which are refilled and used again.



mrttech.com

For question contact Yvonne Marin (347-296-1564) or Luz Bryan (347-296-1183)

6. WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
c. COURT FEUD-CHALLENGE GAMES



**Kings "Supreme and Family Courts"
Gender Fairness Committee
Presents...
Women's History Month**

The Court "Feud" Challenge
How Well Do You Know Women's History?

Games begin:

Friday, March 20, 2009

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Final Round

Friday, March 27, 2009

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Located at 320 Jay St. 2nd floor rm. 2.95

Leah Richardson 347- 296-1880 or 347- 401- 9889

**HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW
WOMEN'S HISTORY?**

Kings Supreme Courts

Gender Fairness Committee

Presents...

The Third Annual

Competition



Court "Feud" Challenge

"Voir Dears"

"Just-Us-Girls"

"JC's Divas"

"Red Ferrari"

Dare to take the challenge select your team by March 6, 2009

contact: Leah Richardson 347-296-1880 or call 347-401-9889

authorized for display / circulation

Court “Feud” Rules

There are 4 teams and 5 members on each team. If your team wins, at least 3 members must remain the same. The team agrees on a captain and only the captain can answer the questions after discussion w/team. Only one person controls the buzzer.

You have 15 seconds to answer the questions after buzzing in. 5 points for each correct answer. If your team has an incorrect answer you lose one point. If you buzz in before the question is read entirely, you cannot answer **NO EXCEPTIONS! and your team is disqualified from that question.**

Scoring

First team to hit buzzer and answer correctly	+ 5 points
First team to hit buzzer and answer incorrectly	- 1 point
Second team to hit buzzer and answer correct	+ 3 points
Second team to hit buzzer and answer incorrectly	- 1 point

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

A Feud in Brooklyn Supreme Court *Court Employees Compete in Women's History Trivia*

By Ryan Thompson
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

JAY STREET — They were wearing Hawaiian leis and pom-poms on their heads. They honked horns and shouted out obscure answers about American Indian women, famous females and inventions of yesterday.

On Friday, it was the Red Ferraris versus the Yellow Canaries. It was the Brooklyn Supreme Court Feud.

A gameshow-style competition, the Court Feud Challenge, was organized by principal computer analyst Leah Richardson, who also coordinates the court's annual fashion show. It was fun and games last week during the three-day event that pitted four teams against one another, vying for trivia-question supremacy.

"Everyone is a winner. Just one side is better than the other," said Kings County Supreme Court Administrative Judge Abraham G. Gerges.

That team turned out to be the Yellow Canaries. They reigned triumphant over the Red Ferraris by a final score of 80-to-65. The other two teams, the Green 360 Divas and the Blue/Black Labels, had already been eliminated from competition.

Justice Albert Tomei was the host, reading trivia questions and providing comic relief. Brooklyn Supreme Court



From left to right: Hon. Robin Sheares, Principal Court Analyst Leah Richardson and Hon. Gloria Dabiri. Eagle photo by Ryan Thompson.



Justice Albert Tomei (center) dons a pom-pom to set the proper example for those competitors who preferred not to wear the official court-feud leader headgear. Photo by Barbara Parkes



6. WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
d. "COURTING JUSTICE" SCREENINGS

Courting Justice

A film

created by Ruth Cowan, Directed by Jane Thandi Lipman



Courtesy of Women Make Movies www.wmm.com

Fourteen years after the defeat of apartheid, South Africa's fledgling democracy is acclaimed for its constitutional promise of comprehensive human rights and unprecedented judicial reform.

But what is essential for transformation to succeed? **COURTING JUSTICE** profiles indomitable female judges charged with the task of guarding those rights and enacting transitional justice.

Wednesday, April 1st 1:00 - 2:00 pm
360 Adams Street Central Jury Room 261

&

Thursday, April 2nd 1:00 - 2:00 pm
320 Jay Street Central Jury Room 2.61

Presented by the Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

6. WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
f. RUTH E. MOSKOWITZ AWARDS CEREMONY

In Celebration Of
Women's History Month



National Women's
History Project

The Kings Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee
proudly presents

The Ruth E. Moskowitz Award

to

Surrogate Margarita Lopez Torres

Marilyn Gelber

Rhonda West, S.C.O.

Katherine Kennedy, Esq.

* * * * *

Tuesday, April 7, 2008, 12:30 P.M.

360 Adams Street, Room 319, Brooklyn, NY

**** Everyone Welcome – Light Reception to Follow ****

* * * * *

Sponsored by:

**Supreme Court Kings County - Civil and Criminal Terms
Family Court Kings County
The Brooklyn Bar Association
The Brooklyn Women's Bar Association
The Women's Bar Association of the State of New York**

Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

Women's History Month

Court "Feud" Challenge Teams

First Prize

"THE YELLOW CANARIES"

Donna Johnson
Viola Jefferson
Barry Weber
Robert Vandenberg
Sean Mathey

Second Prize

"THE RED FERRARIS"

Kevon McKeon
Lisa Hannitt
Virginia Villegas
Kristin Wilis Toro

"THE 360 DIVAS"

C.O. Dawn Pickett-Sherard
S.C.O. Diane Balsamo
C.O. Sonia Navarro
C.O. Bibi Mohabier
C.O. Maria Ramos

"THE BLACK LABELS"

June Farrow
Shirley Paul
Natasia Pinkney
Alisha Corridon
David McClain



"Women Taking the Lead To Save Our Planet"

Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

Presents

IN CELEBRATION OF

Women's History Month



The Ruth E. Moskowitz Award

to

Surrogate Margarita Lopez Torres

Rhonda West, S.C.O.

Marilyn Gelber

Katherine Kennedy, Esq.

"Women Taking the Lead To Save Our Planet"

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

12:30 p.m.

360 Adams Street, Room 319, Brooklyn, N.Y.

♦♦♦♦♦

Hon. Abraham Gerges,
Acting Administrative Judge - Supreme Court Civil and Criminal Terms

Hon. Gloria M. Dabiri,
Chairperson, Gender Fairness Committee

PROGRAM

PROGRAM

Salute

Supreme Court Officers Color Guard

Presentation of "Ruthie" Awards

Welcome

Hon. Abraham G. Gerges
Administrative Judge
Supreme Court Civil & Criminal Terms

Hon. Margarita Lopez Torres
Surrogate, Kings County
Hon. Gloria M. Dabiri
Justice, Supreme Court

Remarks

Hon. Ann Pfau
Chief Admin. Judge, State of New York

Rhonda West, S.C.O.
Kings County Supreme Court
Hon. L. Priscilla Hall
Associate Justice
Appellate Div. 2nd Dept.

Greetings

Diana J. Szochet, Esq.
President, Brooklyn Bar Assn.

Marilyn Gelber
Independence Community Foundation
Hon. Rachel Adams
Justice, Supreme Court

Remembrance

Leah Gershon

Hemalee Patel, Esq.
President, Brooklyn Women's Bar Assn.

Katherine Kennedy, Esq.
Environmental Protection
Hon. Jack M. Battaglia
Justice, Supreme Court

Presentation of Proclamations

Yvonne Graham
Deputy Borough President

Gail M. Boggio, Esq.
President, Women's Bar Assn. of N.Y.

Concluding Remarks

Hon. Rachel Adams

Reception

Jury Room 309

Presentation of "Youth" Award

Izetta Johnson
Senior Management Analyst

Frishta Abawi
New Utrecht High School

Special Thanks To
Hon. Rachel Adams
Awards Sub-Committee Chairperson
Gender Fairness Committee

MARGARITA LÓPEZ TORRES

Surrogate Margarita López Torres was first elected to bench in 1992, when she became the first Latina to serve on the Civil Court of New York. She has also presided in the Family, Housing, and Criminal Courts. In 2005 she was elected to the Surrogate's Court, thus becoming the first Surrogate of color in the State of New York, and the first woman Surrogate in Kings County.

Prior to becoming a judge, Surrogate López Torres served as Deputy General Counsel of Children and Family Services for the Human Resources Administration, where she headed the city-wide legal department which represented the Child Welfare Administration. Before that she was a managing attorney for MFY Legal Services and headed the family law unit of Brooklyn Legal Services, and an Assistant Corporation Council for the City.

At the Surrogate's Court, she has instituted innovative procedures, including the first use of video conferencing in lieu of hearings in foreign countries, and has required the use of gender-neutral language as a court rule. Surrogate López Torres has served as a member of the City Bar Association Committee on the Legal Needs of the Poor (where she co-authored a report on the need to ensure adequate interpreter services in the courts), the Family Court / Family Law Committee, and Surrogate Court / Trust and Estate Committee. She has also served on the Criminal Court Gender Fairness Committee. Prior to joining the judiciary, she was a board member of the New York Civil Liberties Union and the Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc. She has advocated widely for judicial independence and for diversity and transparency in the judicial selection process, including serving as lead plaintiff in recent federal voting rights litigation.

Surrogate López Torres has been an educator; she has taught at all levels in the public school system and taught the Women's Rights Litigation Clinic at Rutgers University School of Law and lectured on ethics at the Practising Law Institute. She gave the keynote address on domestic violence to the International Conference of Latino Judges and Magistrates. She is the recipient of the "Lady Debra Moody Civic Award" from the Brooklyn Borough President, twice received the El Diario - La Prensa "Outstanding Latinas" award, the Puerto Rican Bar Association's award for Judicial Excellence and its Flor de Maga Women of Excellence award, the "Pioneers of Legal Services" award from MFY Legal Services and the award for Achievement from the Puerto Rican Affairs Administration.

RHONDA WEST, S.C.O.

Rhonda West is a Senior Court Officer with over 23 years of combined experience in the New York and Kings County Supreme Courts. Rhonda is currently a Court Tour Representative at Kings County Supreme Court, Criminal Term, located at 320 Jay Street in Brooklyn, New York. In this position, she leads groups around the courthouse to give an inside perspective of the court system, providing them with lectures about the structure of the courts, as well as giving them the opportunity to observe a variety of court proceedings.

Rhonda is also a devoted Girl Scout leader, and has spent the past twelve years volunteering her time with Brownie Troop #2243 at Emmanuel Baptist Church in the Clinton Hill section of Brooklyn. Along with using the theme of building confidence, courage and character to make a difference in a girl's life, she has increased their awareness of using resources wisely.

Caring for the environment has always been part of the Girl Scout program, and Rhonda's troop has participated in several community service projects that relate to environmental awareness.

In addition to her work with the Brownie Girl Scouts, Rhonda is a Service Unit Manager with the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York. In this capacity, she works to develop and maintain Girl Scouting by organizing and supporting local troops, registered adult volunteers, families, and community partners, and by providing leadership to over forty troop leaders in North Brooklyn.

Rhonda has a B.S. degree in Business Management from North Carolina A&T State University. She is the wife of George Boston and the proud mother of three children, Amanda, George, and Terria.

KATHERINE KENNEDY, ESQ.

Kit Kennedy is Special Deputy Attorney General for Environmental Protection in the New York Attorney General's Office and is Chief of the Environmental Protection Bureau. The Bureau enforces state and federal environmental laws, defends state agencies when sued on environmental matters, and recovers the costs incurred in state hazardous waste cleanups. Recent initiatives include lawsuits to slow global warming, reduce pollution from coal-fired power plants, clean up contaminated urban sites, improve water quality in the Bronx River, Hudson River and New York City watershed, and prevent entry of invasive species into the Great Lakes. The Bureau has also been on the forefront of efforts to prevent rollback of federal air and water pollution protections.

Kit worked previously for eighteen years at the Natural Resources Defense Council, where she was a senior attorney and director of the Northeast Energy Project. She has worked on a range of issues, including clean energy, water and air pollution and land use issues. She has taught as an adjunct professor at Fordham University School of Law.

Kit received a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1986 and a B.A. from Harvard College in 1982.

She clerked for the Honorable Morris E. Lasker in the Southern District of New York.

MARILYN GELBER

Marilyn Gelber is Executive Director of Independence Community Foundation, Brooklyn's largest a private charitable foundation which was created through an endowment gift from Independence Community Bank in 1998. Over the past decade the Foundation has made more than \$75 million in grants in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area. More recently, the Foundation has made the decision to focus its grant making exclusively on Brooklyn and build a stronger philanthropic giving base by becoming Brooklyn's first community foundation.

The Independence Community Foundation has invested in broad range of community development and improvement activities including support for many neighborhood environmental education and open space initiatives, including greening and agriculture programs such as the pioneering project in Red Hook called Added Value which created a community farm on an unused asphalt covered City-owned lot, and the much loved Greenest Block in Brooklyn competition in partnership with the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Ms. Gelber was the first woman Commissioner of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, and she also served as Executive Assistant to former Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden and as Director of Neighborhood Strategy Planning for the New York City Department of City Planning.

Among her accomplishments as Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, was the successful negotiation of a comprehensive watershed protection plan for New York City's upstate water supply system. The agreement signed as a result of Ms. Gelber's work continues to provide protection and sound stewardship of the City's unfiltered water supply system across the 2000 square mile watershed in the Catskills.

Ms. Gelber received an honorary doctorate from St. Joseph's College for her community service and was awarded the President's Medal by Brooklyn College. She is a life-long New Yorker, a graduate of Queens College of the City University of New York, and a resident of Boerum Hill, Brooklyn.

FRISHTA ABAWI

Frishta Abawi is a senior at New Utrecht High School and expects to graduate in June 2009 in the top five percent of her class. She is a member of Arista Honor Society and in May 2008 was designated a Girl Leader of Arista for her services to the Honor Society. Ms. Abawi has been a staff member of the New Utrecht High School newspaper since 2006 and editor-in-chief since September 2008. She was recognized for her extraordinary academic and leadership potential when she was named by the Posse Foundation, Inc. to Posse's Class of 2013. Upon her graduation from New Utrecht High School, she will attend Brandeis University on a Posse scholarship.

Ms. Abawi's winning essay recognized the powerful role Rachel Carson has played in preserving our natural resources. "Rachel Carson has been one of the most prestigious figures of our world in terms of environmental patterns and the laws of nature. Carson, a single working woman and marine biologist taught America the importance of our relationship with the environment...Carson's work led to the formation of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Environmental Quality Council, and the National Environmental Policy Act....She is considered to be our 'Environmental Prophet'."

Accepting the "Ruthie" award on behalf of Ms. Abawi is her mother, Malalai Abawi

SPONSORS

The Brooklyn Bar Association

The Brooklyn Women's Bar Association

The Women's Bar Association of the
State of New York



Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Gloria M. Dabiri (Chair)	Loretta Argiro
Hon. Rachel Adams	Major Luz G. Bryan
Hon. Betsy Barros	Lisa Cruz
Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix	Julie DiPalma
Hon. Sarah Krauss	Lucinda DiSalvo
Hon. John M. Leventhal	Donna Farrell
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Hon. Delores Thomas	Major Eric Long
Hon. Albert Tomei	Yvonne Marin, Esq.
Hon. Michelle Weston	Jeanette Mercedes, Esq.
	Roderick E. Randall
	Leah Richardson
	Noreen Soto-Fier, Esq.
	Evelyn Stewart

April 9, 2009

'Women Taking the Lead To Save the Planet' Five Females From Brooklyn Honored With Prestigious 'Ruthie' Moskowitz Awards

By Ryan Thompson
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

ADAMS STREET — Though most of her time was spent presiding over criminal trials in Brooklyn, one of Justice Ruth E. Moskowitz' favorite things to do as a judge was to marry people.

On one particular occasion, her daughter Leah Gershon recalled, Justice Moskowitz invited a young couple over to get married at their house, rather than perform the marriage ceremony at Brooklyn Criminal Court, which was somewhat vermin-infested years ago.

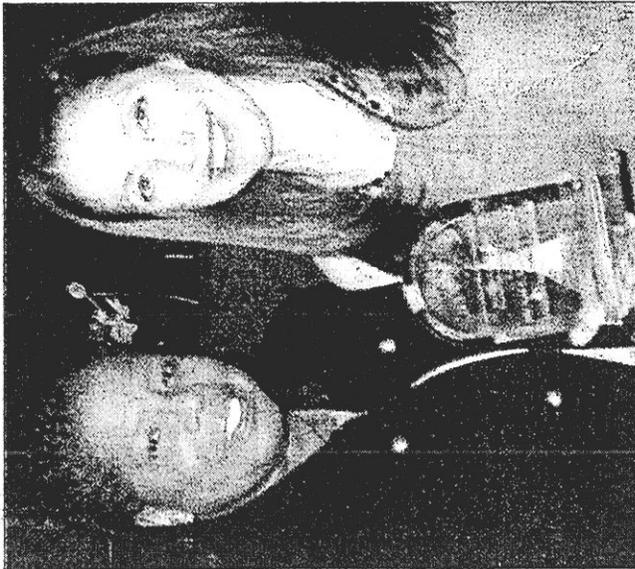
Just before she was to administer the vows, Justice Moskowitz announced that she had to first put on her official robe. Leah, who was very young at the time, stated that she would do the same. In an attempt to mimic her mother, the judge, Leah wore her pink, fuzzy bathrobe throughout the entire marriage ceremony.

For Leah, who spoke at Tuesday's awards ceremony, her mother was always a judge, having been first elected to the judiciary when Leah was 1 year old. But to her and her two brothers, Robert and Joel, their mother was simply a beloved mom.

When she stopped playing Atari with her son and put on that black judicial robe, she suddenly got all this respect from everyone, her son Joel Gershon remembered at last year's awards ceremony when he spoke. "She was then the Honorable Ruth Moskowitz, not just mom."

The memories and stories of Moskowitz, who died of an illness in 1996, are similar. "As a judge, she's been described as tough and fair, and with a million-dollar smile," said Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Rachel Adams, the Awards Subcommittee Chairperson of the Gender Fairness Committee.

"She was a woman who was comfortable with who she was



Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Gloria Dabiri (left) and Surrogate Margarita Lopez Torres



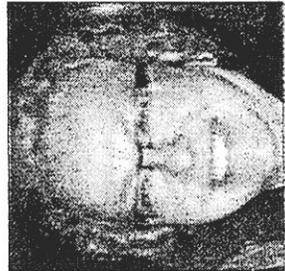
Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Jack Battaglia (left) and Deputy Attorney General Katherine Kennedy



Hon. Ann Pfau

and was willing to take a stand," Adams said. In fact, it was in a Mississippi jail during the '60s civil rights movement that Moskowitz first decided to get involved in law.

Moskowitz graduated from Brooklyn Law School in 1964 and went on to work for The



Marilyn Gelber

Legal Aid Society before rising to the judiciary. One of this year's Ruth E. Moskowitz Award-recipients took a similar path.

"I, too, saw the law as a vehicle for change ... though not while sitting in jail like Ruth E. Moskowitz," said Brooklyn Surrogate Margarita Lopez Torres.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

April 9, 2009



Hon. Rachel Adams



Izetta Johnson

Lopez Torres, who immigrated to New York from Puerto Rico when she was 6 years old, graduated from Rutgers University School of Law in 1979 and went on to work for Brooklyn Legal Services before becoming a judge.

"I quickly learned the value of the courts for instilling justice for the not-so-powerful," she said.

Surrogate Lopez Torres was the first Latina to serve on the Civil Court in New York City, and in 2005, became the first surrogate judge of color in the entire state of New York, and the first woman surrogate in Kings County. However, based on the elated expression on her face, getting the Ruth E. Moskowitz Award was one of her proudest moments.

"I am so very thrilled... I am so very deeply privileged to receive the Ruthie Award," Lopez-Torres said in her acceptance speech.

Lopez-Torres, who made headlines as lead plaintiff in a U.S. Supreme Court lawsuit challenging New York's judicial selection process, is a grandmother of three and rides her bicycle to work each day from her Park Slope home.

Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Gloria Dabiri, chair of the Gender Fairness Committee, presented Lopez-Torres with the Ruthie Award. It was one of five Ruthie Awards handed out this year.

Another Park Slope resident, Katherine Kennedy, was honored on Tuesday, as well. Kennedy, chief of the state attorney general's environmental protection bureau, was presented with the Ruthie Award by Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Jack Battaglia.

"We recognize Katherine 'Kit' Kennedy for trying to make the world a better place," Battaglia said. "Quite literally."

Kennedy, rather than follow her Harvard Law School classmates onto lucrative and prestigious careers, chose a job in public service and protecting the en-

vironment, Battaglia said. "And Brooklyn owes Ms. Kennedy a special debt."

Battaglia, who grew up in North Brooklyn, spoke about what some call one of the worst environmental disasters in history, when a massive sewer explosion reportedly caused at least 17 million gallons of oil to leak into Newtown Creek in Greenpoint during the 1950s. The 55-acre oil spill wasn't revealed until 1979. It is at least 50 percent bigger than the Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska, and litigation is still



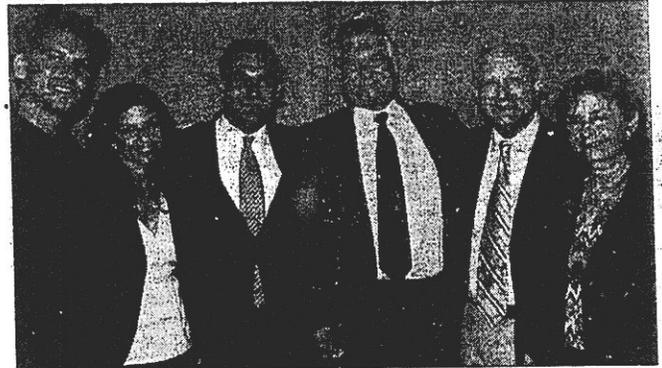
Leah Gershon

pending over who is responsible for the cleanup.

Rectifying this Brooklyn tragedy is just one of the many environmental missions that Kennedy has embarked upon. The mother of two children in Brooklyn schools is also working on projects to improve water quality in the Hudson and Bronx rivers, and is pursuing lawsuits to slow global warming and reduce coal pollution.

Another environmentally conscious Brooklynite was honored with the Ruthie Award for her ef-

Ruthie Awards



The Gershon Family and Hon. Albert Tomei (second from right); From left: Joel, Leah, Robert, Martin and Ruth Moskowitz' twin sister Ann Lyons (far right)

continued from page 14

orts in community development. Marilyn Gelber, now the executive director of the Independence Community Foundation, which is Brooklyn's largest charitable foundation, was the first woman commissioner of the city's Department of Environmental Protection.

"As with most things in life, being the first woman at anything is hard," Gelber said.

She told a story about when she first became commissioner, and the men took her to the smelliest, most noxious parts of the sewage plant to see if she could take it. Over time, she "disarmed and charmed" them somewhat, she said.

Gelber perhaps had the toughest act to follow on Tuesday, as there was an unexpected performance by a half-dozen girl scouts that preceded her. The scouts recited their girl-scout pledge and sang, "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow," to their troop leader, Brooklyn Supreme Court senior court officer Rhonda West.

Justice Adams, who is also involved with the Girl Scouts, helped organize the surprise scout tribute. And West was presented with the Ruthie Award by Justice L. Priscilla Hall, who recently stepped down as the administrative judge of the Brooklyn Supreme Court Criminal Term to accept a promotion to the Appellate Division.

Rhonda West has a movie

star name," Hall said. "Can't you just see her name on the marquee?" Fortunately for the Brooklyn Supreme Court, West shunned Hollywood to come work for us, Hall said.

With a celebrity smile, and her proud husband snapping dozens of photos from the corner of the courtroom, there surely was no other place she'd rather be.

The fifth Ruthie Award was presented to Frishta Abawai, an exceptional senior at New Utrecht High School in Bensonhurst, who could not attend Tuesday's ceremony because she was required to attend a mandatory orientation at Brandeis University in Massachusetts, where she will attend on a full scholarship. A surprise gift/award was also presented to Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Albert Tomei, the "Bob Barker" of the Court Feud Challenge, for all the work he does with the Gender Fairness Committee.

Also speaking on Tuesday were Brooklyn Supreme Court Administrative Judge Abraham Gerges, New York State Chief Administrative Judge Ann Pfau, Brooklyn Bar Association President Diana Szochet, Brooklyn Women's Bar Association President Hamalee Patel, Women's Bar Association of New York President Gail Baggio, Brooklyn Supreme Court Senior Management Analyst Izetta Johnson, and Brooklyn Deputy Borough President Yvonne Graham.



Please turn to page 13

7. OTHER ACTIVITIES

- a. MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH — Wambui Bahati
“Balancing Act — The Musical”

**Please join the Gender Fairness Committees of
Kings County Supreme and Family Courts in
welcoming back actress, singer and writer**

Wambui Bahati

to perform her one woman show

“Balancing Act – The Musical”

Based on her own experience of living with Mental
Illness

Thursday, May 15, 2008

1:00 pm

**Kings County Supreme Court
320 Jay Street, Room 454**

Refreshments will be served

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

To learn more about Wambui Bahati, visit her website at
www.wambui-bahati.com

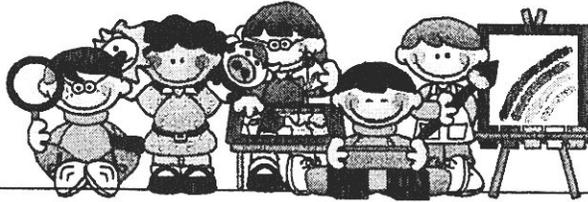
7. OTHER ACTIVITIES

b. BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY

April 17, 2009

April 23, 2009

A+
Good Job



Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

PRESENTS

Bring Your Child to Work Day

Civil Term - 360 Adams Street Program

360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Thursday, April 23, 2009

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Activity
Highlights

**Court Tours * Photos in Judge's Robes * Career Quiz
Rule of Law Game * Arrest-to-Sentence Presentation
Say No to Drugs Presentation * Crime Scenario and Jury Service Presentation
Internet Safety Talk * Video Conference Demonstration * Court-Related Crafts**

- ✓ OPEN TO CHILDREN AGES 7 TO 14 YEARS OLD
- ✓ ALL EMPLOYEES MUST OBTAIN PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THEIR SUPERVISOR
- ✓ CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT, GUARDIAN OR SPONSOR
- ✓ PROGRAM IS OPEN TO COURT PERSONNEL ONLY
- ✓ ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST PRE-REGISTER

TO PRE-REGISTER OR VOLUNTEER CONTACT:

Martha Guadamuz (347) 296-1705

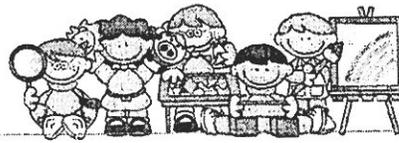
Dina James (347) 296-1563

Yvonne Marin, Esq. (347) 296-1563

Registration Deadline: Monday, April 6, 2009

Please Note: The program for Criminal Term - 320 Jay Street will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2009

A+ Good Job



Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

PRESENTS

Bring Your Child to Work Day

Criminal Term - 320 Jay Street Program
320 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Activity Highlights

- Photos in Judge's Robes *
- Career Quiz
- Rule of *

Law Game

**PROGRAM DATE CHANGE:
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009**

**REGISTRATION EXTENDED:
FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2009**

OPEN TO CHILDREN
AGES 7 TO 14 YEARS OLD

ALL EMPLOYEES MUST OBTAIN PRIOR
APPROVAL FROM THEIR SUPERVISOR

CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT,

TO PRE-REGISTER OR VOLUNTEER CONTACT:

- Gindy Cosentino (347) 296-1046
- Marcia Franqui (347) 296-1845
- Noel Hinds (347) 296-1581

Registration Deadline: Monday, April 6, 2009

Please Note: The program for Civil Term - 360 Adams Street will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2009

Criminal Term - 320 Jay Street Program

320 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

~~Wednesday, April 22, 2009~~

more detail, [click here](#)

Civil Term - 360 Adams Street Program

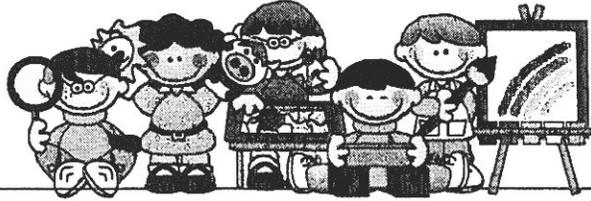
360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Thursday, April 23, 2009

REGISTRATION EXTENDED TO FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2009

more detail, [click here](#)

A+
Good Job



Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

PRESENTS

Bring Your Child to Work Day

Civil Term - 360 Adams Street Program

360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Thursday, April 23, 2009

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Activity
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Rule of Law Game * Arrest-to-Sentence Presentation
Say No to Drugs Presentation * Crime Scenario and Jury Service Presentation
Internet Safety Talk * Video Conference Demonstration * Court-Related Crafts**

- ✓ OPEN TO CHILDREN AGES 7 TO 14 YEARS OLD
- ✓ ALL EMPLOYEES MUST OBTAIN PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THEIR SUPERVISOR
- ✓ CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT, GUARDIAN OR SPONSOR
- ✓ PROGRAM IS OPEN TO COURT PERSONNEL ONLY
- ✓ ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST PRE-REGISTER

TO PRE-REGISTER OR VOLUNTEER CONTACT:

Martha Guadamuz (347) 296-1705

Dina James (347) 296-1563

Yvonne Marin, Esq. (347) 296-1563

Registration Deadline: Monday, April 6, 2009

Please Note: The program for Criminal Term - 320 Jay Street will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2009



SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
 COUNTY OF KINGS
 CIVIC CENTER AT MONTAGUE STREET
 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201

On Thursday, April 23, 2009, **Kings County Supreme Court, Civil Term** and its employees will participate in the annual Bring Your Child to Work Day sponsored by The Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee.

Kings County Supreme Court, Civil Term and its employees invite their daughters, sons, relatives, friends, and other sponsored girls and boys, between the ages of 7 and 14 to attend.

The children will be participating in interactive activities which will highlight work in the courts and its impact on their lives, families and community. It is our goal to empower these youths to make the world a better place on a personal level and to better serve the community and the country, by presenting them with different choices they might face in the work environment. It is also our intent that the employees of **Kings County Supreme Court, Civil Term** will serve as role models that will inspire these youngsters to strive to attain their full potential.

Parent/Guardian/Sponsor, please fill out the bottom of this form and have the participating student take it to her/his teacher or principal to sign. Please note, we do not need this form returned. It is for your records.

Parent/Guardian/Sponsor's Name: _____

Teacher: _____

School: _____

Student's Name: _____

I excuse _____ to attend the Bring Your Child to Work Day program, On April 22, 2009, at **Kings County Supreme Court, Civil Term: 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201**. If necessary, the student should complete the following school work to make up for the excused absence _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Teacher or Principal)



District Attorney Charles J. Hynes

Visit our Web Site: www.brooklynda.org

www.NetSmartz.org

Internet Safety

Presentation:

Tweens

Tips for kids and teens

1. **Don't give out personal information such as name, age, address, telephone number, parent/guardian's name, and school name/address**
2. **Do not respond to mean, offensive, threatening, or unwanted E-mail or Instant Messages**
3. **Choose a screenname that doesn't identify you as a young boy or girl**
4. **Don't share your password with anyone (except a parent/guardian) — not even your best friend**
5. **Remember, people online may or MAY NOT be who they say they are**

INTERNET SAFETY PLEDGE for Middle & High School

I WILL TALK WITH MY PARENTS OR GUARDIAN ABOUT THEIR EXPECTATIONS AND GROUND RULES FOR GOING ONLINE

I will talk with my parents or guardian so that we can set up rules for going online. The rules will include the time of day that I may be online, the length of time I may be online, whom I may communicate with while online, and appropriate areas for me to visit while online. I will not break these rules or access other areas without their permission.

I will never download anything from anyone I don't know. In addition to offensive content, spam or junk E-mail may contain viruses that can damage my computer.

I WILL KEEP MY IDENTITY PRIVATE

I will never share personal information such as my full name, my mailing address, my telephone number, the name of my school, or any other information that could help someone determine my actual identity. I will also not reveal any personal information about my friends or family.

I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents or guardian.

I WILL NEVER RESPOND TO ANY ONLINE COMMUNICATION THAT MAKES ME FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE

I will tell a trusted adult if I come across anything that makes me feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused.

I will never respond to any messages that are rude or offensive in any way. I will show the message to a trusted adult right away so that he or she can decide if it's necessary to contact the online service or other authorities.

I WILL NEVER MEET IN PERSON WITH ANYONE I HAVE FIRST "MET" ONLINE WITHOUT DISCUSSING IT WITH MY PARENTS OR GUARDIAN

Since the biggest danger to my safety is getting together with someone I have first "met" online, I won't meet in person with anyone unless my parents or guardian agrees to the meeting, they will go with me to the meeting, and the meeting will be in a public place.

I WILL RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS WHILE ONLINE

The Internet is a large community; therefore, my behavior while on it affects others. I will always treat others the way I would like to be treated.

I will respect copyright laws and check on sources. When writing reports I will make sure that the online sources of information are credible, and I will always cite my sources.

Piracy is illegal and keeps authors, artists, and others from getting paid for their work. I will never download things such as pictures, games, music, or movies that have not been given to the public for free.

SIGNED

SIGNED

WALKING ON JAY STREET¹

Narrator #1: After school, Lizetta and Joel go to a bookstore on Jay Street to pick up a book they need for Math class. While Lizetta and Joel are browsing, the co-owners of the store are observing the two children in a mirror.

Narrator #2: They watch as Lizetta and Joel walk up and down the aisles, remove books from the shelves and put them back.

Lizetta: Joel, let me see your knapsack for a minute.

Joel: Okay.

Narrator #3: Lizetta takes a book off the shelf, looks up and down the aisle, and drops the book into Joel's knapsack. She then picks up the knapsack and throws the knapsack to Joel. Joel catches the knapsack and continues to browse. Joel has no idea that Lizetta had put the book in the knapsack.

Owner: I saw that. You're trying to steal a book.

Joel: Excuse me, sir, but I didn't steal any books.

Owner: Look, I don't have time for this. Give me the book back.

Narrator #4: The owner calls the police.

Lizetta: Leave my friend alone! He didn't take any book!

Joel: Hey, get off my bag!

Narrator #5: The owner and Joel are playing tug-of-war with the knapsack as the police walk through the door. Joel sees the police come in the door. He tries to leave and is stopped.

Narrator #6: The tug of war continues between Joel and the owner. The knapsack suddenly opens and the book falls out.

Joel: I didn't put that book in the knapsack. They are trying to frame me!

Lizetta: How did that book get into the knapsack? Joel, what are they trying to do to you? You never left the store. How can they say you stole something?

Narrator #7: The police arrest Lizetta and Joel.

¹As adopted from *Choices*, by the Kings County District Attorney's Office

DIRECTIONS FOR MINI MOCK TRIAL

Assign children to read aloud the above script. Then divide the children into groups (prosecution and the defense and jurors.

What arguments will you make in defense of Lizetta? In defense of Joel?

What arguments will the prosecution make against each defendant?

Lesson to Learn:

- *whether you have to leave the store in order to be found guilty of the crime of petit larceny.
- * Whether the police are authorized to arrest both Lizetta and Joel?

I find that students like to wear and use props — it makes the role play a lot more exciting. If you can. Try to make the court room look like a book store with several books piled throughout the room.

PROPS: Back pack; book; security badge; scarf for Lizetta, eye glasses for Joel.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

April 27, 2009

Sons & Daughters of the Court *Brooklyn Parents Enjoy 'Take Your Child to Work Day'*



It was "Take Your Child To Work Day" last week in the Brooklyn courthouses. Sponsored by the Kings County Gender Fairness Committee, several events and programs were held at the Brooklyn Supreme Court Civil Term, 360 Adams St. There was a quiz show, a court tour and several instructional programs for the kids.

Top Photo: "Justice" Alec Sherr, son of court officer Lenny Sherr, takes a seat behind the bench.

Middle Photo: Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Karen Rothenberg (bottom center) and Court Officer Jacqueline Sheppard (top center) helped the many boys and girls get an inside look at the courthouse.

Bottom photo: Court officers Michael McHenry (top left), Sheldon Charles (top center) and Jacqueline Sheppard (top right) show the juror selection box to some of the kids.

Eagle photos by Mario Belluomo



Brooklyn Daily Eagle

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Sons & Daughters of the Court

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Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

Sponsors

BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY

Thursday, April 23, 2009 – 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York

TIME	ACTIVITY	INSTRUCTOR	ROOM
8:30 to 9:45	Registration, Welcome and Photos	Hon. Karen B. Rothenberg	524
9:45 to 10:15	Career Quiz (Ages 7 - 9) Participants learn about the various jobs in the court system.	Ahyana Guerra, Deanna Giamportone	524
	Arrest to Sentence (Ages 10 - 14) Participants become familiar with the steps taken from arrest leading to sentencing. Including court procedures and the role of the judge.	Donna Johnson	574
10:15 to 10:45	Internet Safety (All Ages) Participants learn about internet safety and ways to protect themselves and their identity. Parental participation is welcome.	Courtney Ilarraza, Esq.	11 th Floor Board Room
10:45 to 11:15	Court Tour (Ages 7 - 9) Mini tour throughout the court house. Highlights include demonstration of the court's latest technology and a display of confiscated weapons.	SCO Rhonda West	423
11:15	Crime Scenario & Jury Service (Ages 10 - 14) Participants are given a brief talk on jury service. During the talk a crime happens. Participants assist in identifying the perpetrator.	John Fiumara, Esq., Commissioner Nancy Sunshine	524

<p>11:15 to 11:45</p>	<p>Say No To Drugs (All Ages) Participants are introduced to various types of drugs and the negative effect of their use.</p>	<p>Surabhi Jolly</p>	<p>11th Floor Board Room</p>
<p>11:45 to 12:15</p>	<p>Mock Trial (Ages 7 - 10) Participants read aloud a brief script resulting in the arrest of two characters. Small groups are formed to prepare the prosecution and defense of the accused.</p>	<p>John McPadden, Esq., June Farrow</p>	<p>574</p>
	<p>Rule of Law Game (Ages 10 - 14) Participants take part in a game show format. Includes questions about the rule of law, prominent public figures and pop culture.</p>	<p>Hon. Abraham Gerges</p>	<p>11th Floor Board Room</p>
<p>12:15 to 1:00</p>	<p>Court Crafts (Ages 7 - 9) Participants make decorative court- related objects.</p>	<p>Lucinda DiSalvo, Dina James</p>	<p>524</p>
	<p>Court Tour (Ages 10 - 14) Mini tour throughout the court house. Highlights include demonstration of the court's latest technology and a display of confiscated weapons.</p>	<p>SCO Rhonda West</p>	<p>423</p>

6. ACTIVITIES FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2009.

- a. **Essay Contest.** For the past three years the Committee has presented a \$250 scholarship to a New Utrecht High School senior during its Ruth Moskowitz Women's History Month Awards Programs. New Utrecht is Justice Moskowitz's *alma mater*, and students compete for the award by submitting essays. This year, in keeping with the theme of the National Women's History Project for 2009, students provide their views on the role women have played in preserving our environment. Frishta Abawi, who will be attending Brandeis University in the fall, was the scholarship recipient. Judge Rachel Adams, chair of the Awards subcommittee and Izetta Johnson, liaison to New Utrecht, co-ordinated the contest.
- b. **Recycling Program.** In collaboration with the Lions Club and cellphonesforsoldiers.com, the Committee provided drop-off sites in both the Criminal and Civil Term courthouses for the collection of used prescription and non-prescription glasses, and used cell phones. More than 50 items were contributed. Information was also provided to employees on how to recycle used ink jet and laser cartridges. Major Luz Bryan and Yvonne Marin, Esq. co-chaired this subcommittee [see flyer annexed]
- c. **Court Feud Challenge Games.** In order to encourage broader participation by court personnel in Women's History Month activities, the Committee has hosted a series of women's history court-feud/trivia games, during March, for the past three years. Teams of five competed against each other in elimination rounds, held during lunch hours. This year four teams competed. The challengers were the "Yellow Canaries" (court clerks), the "Red Ferraris" (Family Court), the "360 Divas" (court officers), and the "Black Labels" (secretaries). The games foster collegiality among court personnel while increasing an awareness of women's role in history and in today's society. Justice Albert Tomei and Judge Robin Sheares (Family Court) co-chaired this subcommittee. Justice Robert Miller participated as a timekeeper/judge, and member Leah Richardson arranged a video display of questions and answers. [see flyer and news article attached]
- d. **Screening of "Courting Justice".** In this beautifully filmed documentary South African female judges share their experiences and insights regarding race, gender, changes in the judiciary and their impact during South Africa's constitutional transformation. Public screenings were held in the central jury room of each of our two courthouses on April 1 and April 2, 2009. A private screening took place for judges on April 22, 2009.
- e. **Quotations of the Week.** Quotations by noted women including Golda Meir, Marian Wright Edelman, Susan B. Anthony, Janis Joplin, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Whoopi Goldberg were posted weekly on the employee space. This

subcommittee was chaired by Dina James and Leah Richardson.

- f. **Ruth E. Moskowitz Awards Ceremony.** The theme of the Committee's annual awards program, held on April 7, 2008, was "Women Taking the Lead to Save our Planet". Award recipients were **Surrogate Margarita Lopez Torres; Marilyn Gelber**, former Commissioner of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection; **Katherine Kennedy**, Special Deputy State Attorney General for Environmental Protection and **S.C.O. Rhonda West**, Brownie Girl Scout Leader and Unit Manager with the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York. A "Youth Award" and scholarship was presented to high school senior **Frishta Abawi**. And, **Justice Albert Tomei** received a surprise recognition for his continued work with the Committee and, in particular, for his contribution as Master of Ceremony of the court feud games.

Chief Administrative Judge Ann Pfau was present and provided remarks. The Deputy Borough President presented proclamations to each awardee. The Awards program was co-sponsored by the Brooklyn Bar Association, the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association and the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York. The presidents of each organization provided greetings.

A light reception followed the program. Judge Rachel Adams chaired the Awards Ceremony subcommittee. Approximately 70 people, including members of Justice Moskowitz's family, were in attendance. [see materials annexed]

7. OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST YEAR.

- a. **Mental Health Awareness Month** — Wambui Bahati's "Balancing Act — The Musical". On May 15, 2008 at 1:00 P.M., the Committee, in partnership with the Kings Family Court Gender Fairness Committee, presented the above-entitled performance by Ms. Bahati based upon her own experiences living with mental illness, to an audience of court employees. [see flyer annexed]
- b. **Bring Your Child to Work Day** — April 17, 2009, Criminal Term, 320 Jay Street. April 23, 2009, Civil Term, 360 Adam Street. More than 70 children attended these events which were open to children, age 7 to 14, of court employees. Activities held during the, 8:30 A.M. until 1:00 P.M., events included a career quiz; rule of law games; discussions on internet safety; courthouse tours and photographs; mock trials "Say No-to-Drugs" presentations; and arts and crafts projects. [see materials attached]

The N.Y.S. Court Clerks Association provided rain ponchos and knapsacks; the N.Y.S. Supreme Court Officers Association supplied pencil cases; the EEO Office contributed YoYo's and the Tribune Society, Shomrim Tdzek Society,

Cervantes Society, Amicus Curiae and Association of Secretaries to Supreme Court Justices contributed for the purchase of snacks (water, juice, fruit cup, milk, cookies, lollipops and pretzels).

Justice Karen Rothenberg chaired this subcommittee. Izetta Johnson coordinated the event at 320 Jay Street and Yvonne Marin at 360 Adams. [see materials annexed]

8. PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR.

- a. 2nd Elder Empowerment Conference. [to be determined]
- b. Explore issue of pay disparity.
- c. Survey court employees to identify issues of concern to them.
- d. Women bosses — differences in subordinates' attitudes and behaviors.

**9. IMPORTANT ISSUES OF WOMEN AND GENDER IN THE COURTS THIS YEAR.
UNMET TRAINING NEEDS.**

- a. Sexual harassment training.
- b. Educating employees on the procedures for reporting complaints and protection against retaliation.

10. HELP WE WOULD LIKE FROM NYS JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS.

- a. Dissemination, via e-mail, of program and event announcements.
- b. Assistance with identifying and obtaining event venues, speakers and resources.

Acknowledgements

Brooklyn Family Justice Center
Brooklyn Borough President's Office
Jewish Association for Services for the Aged
Kings County Clerk's Office
Kings County District Attorney's Office
Kings County Supreme & Family Courts
Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote
Gender Fairness in the Courts
N.Y.C. Department for the Aging
N.Y.S. Office of the Attorney General
N.Y.S. Office for the Aged
N.Y.S. Judicial Institute
Senator Velmanette Montgomery
Adelaide Sanford
Senior Umbrella Network
St. John's University School of Law
Joseph J. Tartaglia MD, FACC
Westchester County Department for the Aged



The Gender Fairness Committees Of
Kings County Supreme & Family Courts
In Conjunction With The
NYS Judicial Institute
Present

Elder Empowerment Conference

October 24, 2008
NYS Judicial Institute
84 North Broadway
White Plains, NY

9:45 AM

Registration Begins

Conference Moderator

Justice Gloria Dabiri

10:00 AM

Openings Remarks

Adelaide Sanford - NYS Regent (retired)

SESSION ONE

10:15 AM

Surrogate Court, Wills, Trusts and Estates

Surrogate Diana Johnson

Surrogate Margarita Lopez-Torres

10:45 AM

Domestic Elder Abuse

Arlene Markarian, Esq.

11:05 AM

Article 81 / Guardianships

Justice Betsy Barros

11:20 AM

10 Minute Break

SESSION TWO

11:30 AM

Financial Exploitation, Real Property Theft
and Scams

Donna Dougherty, Esq

12:00 PM

Internet Security & Identity Theft

Frank Laghezza, Esq.

12:20 PM

Medical Issues Concerning The Elderly

Dr. Joseph Tartaglia, FACC

12:45 PM

LUNCHEON SESSION

Senator Velmanette Montgomery

2:00 PM

SESSION THREE

Panel Facilitator

Peter J. Strauss, Esq.

Discussion Panel

Ann Goldweber - Assoc. Professor, St. John's University

Mae Carpenter - Commissioner, Westchester County Department for the Aged

Judith McCarthy, Esq. - NYS Office of the Attorney General

Aurora Salamone - NYC Department for the Aging

Ronald A. Fatoullab, Esq. - Senior Umbrella Network

Conference Committee

Conference Organizer ...	Izetta Johnson
Registration ...	Noel Hinds Dina James Noreen Soto-Fier, Esq.
Liaison to Presenters & Panelist...	Yvonne Marin, Esq. Izetta Johnson
Community Outreach..	Hon. Gloria Dabiri Hon. L. Priscilla Hall Hon. Delores Thomas Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix Hon. Nancy Sunshine Hon. Terry J. Ruderman Commissioner Mae Carpenter Loretta Argiro John D'Emic Donna Farrell
Administrative Matters...	Thomas Kilfoyle, Esq. James Imperatrice
Microphones...	Loretta Argiro Ellen Neri
Security...	Joseph Cannella Adrian Sterrett Barry Weber Sonia Navarro
Design Concept...	Izetta Johnson Noel Hinds

Special Thanks

Hon. Robert Keating
Damaris Torrent, Esq.
and the staff of the NYS Judicial Institute



Office of Senator Velmanette Montgomery
Office of Senator Marty Golden
Office of Congressman Ed Towns
Office of Assemblywoman Annette Robinson



Honorable Gloria M. Dabiri - Chair
Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee
and members of the
Supreme and Family Court Gender Fairness Committees
Honorable L. Priscilla Hall, Administrative Judge, KCSC Criminal Term
Honorable Abraham Gerges, Administrative Judge, KCSC Civil Term
Honorable Paula Hepner, Administrative Judge, KC Family Court
Hon. Terry J. Ruderman - Chair
9th JD Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts



Office of Court Administration
Zola Hill - Central Print Office
Patricia Ryan - Audio Visual Unit

5. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH 2008
a. ELDER EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE