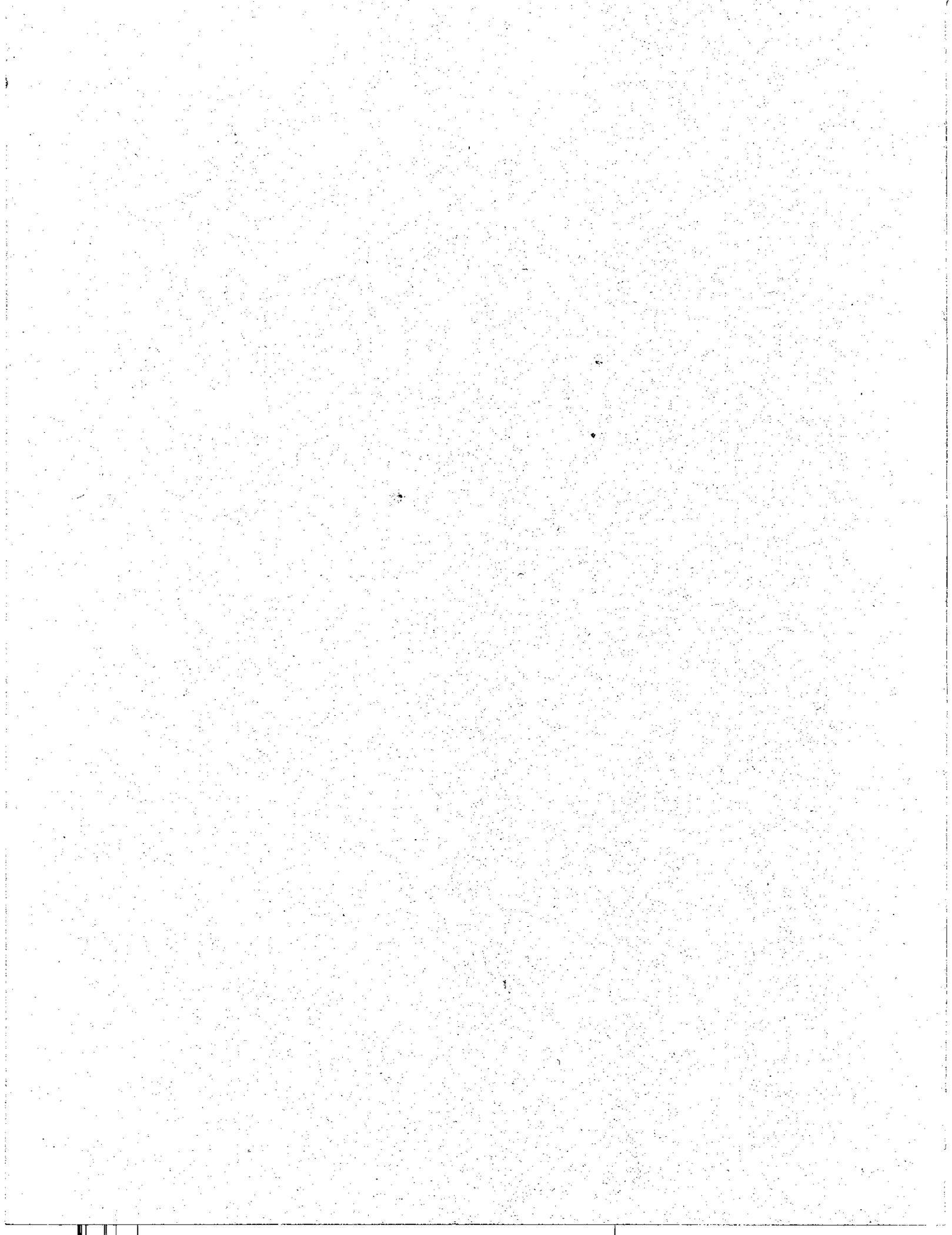


Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees

Reports for 2000-2001



March 27, 2001

Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees

Courts Outside NYC

*Third Judicial District Gender Fairness
Committee*

Hon. Leslie Stein
Albany City Court
Albany City Hall, Room 209
Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 434-5112
Fax: (518)

*Fourth Judicial District Gender Fairness
Committee*

Eileen Kassner, Esq.
Chambers of Hon. Vincent Reilly, Jr
Schenectady County Supreme Court
612 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: 518-388-4322
Fax: 518-377-5897

Nicole Duve
Court Attorney
Franklin County Courthouse
355 West Main Street
Malone, NY 12953

Telephone: (518) 481-1732
Fax: (518)

Fifth Judicial District Committee

Hon. Martha Walsh Hood
Onondaga County Family Court
Onondaga County Courthouse
Syracuse, New York 13202

Telephone: (315) 435-2054
Fax: (315) 435

Sixth Judicial District Committee

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann
Binghamton City Court
Governmental Plaza
Binghamton, New York 13901

Telephone: (607) 772-7006
Fax: (607) 772-7041

Seventh Judicial District

Hon. Ann Marie Taddeo
Supervising Judge
Monroe Family Court
300 Hall of Justice
Rochester, NY 14614-2187

Telephone: (716) 428-5488
Fax: (716) 428-4068

*Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial
Fairness Committee*

Hon. Sheila Di Tullio
Judge, Erie County Court
92 Franklin Street, Part 3
Buffalo, New York 14202

Telephone: (716) 858-2143 or 21242
Fax: (716) 858-

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

Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman
Judge, Court of Claims
140 Grand Street, 9th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601

Telephone: (914) 428-6888
Fax: (914) 428-1306

*Nassau County Judicial Committee on
Women in the Courts*

Hon. Claire Weinberg
County Court Judge
99 Main Street
Hempstead, NY 11550

Telephone: 516-572-2111
Fax: 516-572-2371

Hon. Denise Sher,
Chair Emeritus
285 Bayberry Road
Hewlett Harbor, NY 11557

Telephone: (516) 569-8770

*Suffolk County Women in the Courts
Committee*

Cheryl Zimmer, Esq.
c/o Justice H. Patrick Leis
400 Carelton Ave.
Central Islip, NY 11722

Telephone: (631) 853-7735
Fax

Courts Within NYC

New York City Civil Court Committee

Hon. Sara Lee Evans
Civil Court Judge
111 Centre Street
New York, New York 10013

Telephone: (212) 374-8156
Fax: (212) 374

Hon. Maria Millin
Housing Court Judge
111 Centre Street
New York, New York 10013

Telephone: (212) 374-8469
Fax: (212) 374-

New York City Criminal Court Anti-Bias Committee

Hon. Laura Ward
Acting Justice, Supreme Court
100 Centre Street
New York, NY 10013

Telephone: (212) 374-5857
Fax: (212) 374-2579

Gender Bias Committee of the Family Courts of the City of New York

Hon. Nora Freeman
NYC Family Court
283 Adams Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Telephone: (718) 643-4017
Fax: (718) 643-5103

Anti-Bias Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Term

Hon. Alice Schlesinger
Justice, Supreme Court
60 Centre Street, Room 557
New York, New York 10007

Telephone: (212) 374-4744
Fax: (212) 374-3907

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

Hon. Arlene Goldberg
Acting Justice, Supreme Court
100 Centre Street, Room 412
New York, New York 10013

Telephone: (212)- 748-5100
Fax: (212) - 374-2579

Bonx County Supreme Court Committee

Hon. Richard Lee Price
Acting Justice, Supreme Court
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451

Telephone: (718) 590-3590
Fax: (718) 590-8914

*Queens County Supreme Court Gender
Fairness Committee*

Hon. Sheri Roman

Justice, Supreme Court
125-01 Queens Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Telephone: (718) 520-4416

Fax: (718) 520-2236

Brooklyn Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. John Leventhal

Justice, Supreme Court
360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

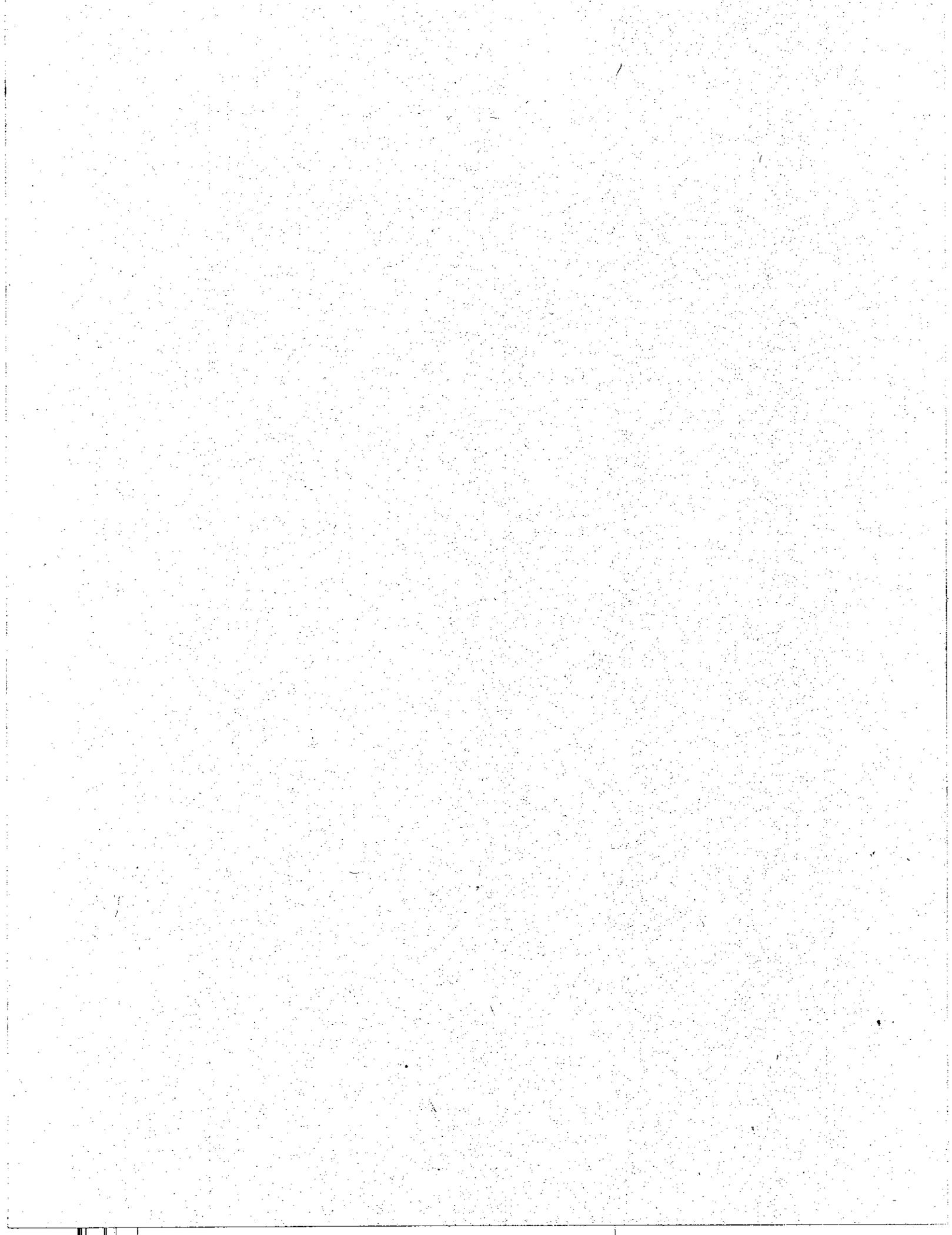
Telephone: (718) 643-8490

Fax: (718) 643-

Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Leslie Stein, Chair
Albany City Court
Albany City Hall, Room 209
Albany, NY 12207

Telephone: (518) 434-5112





STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
125 STATE STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
(518) 445-7867
FAX (518) 445-7473

JONATHAN LIPPMAN
Chief Administrative Judge

THOMAS W. KEEGAN
District Administrative Judge
Third Judicial District

JOSEPH J. TRAFICANTI, JR.
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Courts Outside New York City

DAVID L. SULLIVAN
Executive Assistant

April 25, 2001

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004

Re: Yearly Reports

Dear Jill:

As you know, we unfortunately lost our former Chair of the district's Gender Fairness Committee when Victoria Graffeo was appointed to the Court of Appeals. Because of the demands of her new position, Judge Graffeo reluctantly resigned from her position as Chair of the committee. In March of this year Judge Keegan designated Albany City Court Judge-Leslie Stein as the new Chair of this committee. Because Judge Stein was just appointed to this position, I have been assigned to the task of completing the 2000-01 annual report. Attached is our report. I have not answered the last two questions on the biggest changes in the last 15 years and what work remains to be done. I don't feel I can comment for Judge Stein or the rest of our committee on the issues. As noted on the enclosed memorandum from Judge Stein to committee members, our next scheduled meeting is May 9. I will try to get a sense from those present to answer these two questions and forward our response to you after this meeting.

With kind personal regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David L. Sullivan".

David L. Sullivan
Executive Assistant

cc: Hon. Leslie E. Stein
Peter Ryan, Esq.

LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2000-2001

Name of the Committee Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

Name, Address, and Telephone and Fax Numbers of Chair _____

Hon. Leslie E. Stein, Albany City Court Judge, Albany City Hall, Room 209

24 Eagle Street, Albany, NY 12207

Phone: (518) 434-5715 Fax: (518) 434-5034

Principal activities in the past year (2000) (1) After a survey of Family Court Judges, several years ago identified the lack of supervised visitation programs as a major unmet need for family court litigants, the committee has been supportive of local efforts to establish such programs in the Third Judicial District. In February of 2000 the non-judicial members of the committee sent a letter supporting a grant request for a supervised visitation program in Rensselaer County. The grant was subsequently approved and the program has begun operations. (2) In May of 2000 the committee arranged for the re-distribution of Gender Fairness Posters to all Third Judicial District trial Courts. (3) The committee had three meeting during 2000. There were four guest speakers at these meeting who discussed topics on domestic violence, supervised visitation and UCS juror operations.

Plans for next year (2001) In March of 2001, Hon. Leslie Stein replaced Hon. Victoria Graffeo as the committee Chair. Judge Stein has distributed a brief survey to committee members (see attached) to help identify future speakers and projects for the committee.

Do you have any flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee from this or any previous years? If so, please include copies.

What is the biggest change in your court or district in the past 15 years regarding the treatment of women.

See cover letter.

What work remains to be done regarding the treatment of women in your court or district?

See cover letter.

Please return this form (with flyers and other written materials) by March 5, 2001, to:

**Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004**



Memorandum

To: Gender Fairness Committee Members
From: Hon. Leslie Stein
Date: April 9, 2001
Subject: Next Committee Meeting & Survey

I have been appointed to replace Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo as Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee. I have scheduled a meeting of the Committee to be held on *May 9, 2001 at 2:00 p.m.* at the Albany County Courthouse (the specific room location will be posted inside the Courthouse the day of the meeting). Our speaker will be Julia L. Masch, Esq., legal training coordinator for the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence. I hope that we will have good attendance for this program.

In the meantime, as I take over the helm from Judge Graffeo, I would like to get your thoughts and ideas for future speakers and for projects that the committee might wish to undertake. Enclosed is a very simple form on which to indicate your ideas. Please complete the form and return it to me by April 30th. All ideas are welcome. I am hoping that we will have some time for discussion at the meeting on May 9th.

Thank you for your cooperation.

swh
Enclosure

cc: Hon. Thomas W. Keegan
Peter J. Ryan, Esq.
Alice M. Chapman
Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Pat Bucklin, Esq.

**THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
SURVEY**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____

I HAVE THE FOLLOWING IDEAS FOR SPEAKERS AT FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

I HAVE THE FOLLOWING IDEAS FOR FUTURE PROJECTS FOR THE COMMITTEE TO UNDERTAKE:

OTHER COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS:

**Please return to: Hon. Leslie E. Stein, Albany City Court - Civil Part, City Hall Room 209,
Albany, New York 12207**





VICTORIA A. GRAFFEO
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

STATE OF NEW YORK
SUPREME COURT APPELLATE DIVISION
THIRD DEPARTMENT
ALBANY COUNTY COURT HOUSE
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
(518) 487-5330

LISA LECOURS
PRINCIPAL LAW CLERK

November 15, 2000

Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Room 878
25 Beaver Street
New York, New York 10004

Re: Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Dear Justice Ellerin:

The Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee began its Domestic Violence Awareness Initiatives with a program in Kingston, New York on September 22, 2000 with a presentation by Pilar Rodriguez-Rexach, Ulster County Family Court Domestic Violence Victim Advocate. Introductory remarks were made by Ulster County Family Court Judge, the Honorable Mary M. Work, and myself, followed by Ms. Rodriguez-Rexach's presentation regarding the role of advocates in working with victims of domestic violence, her program's referral efforts and her thoughts on the perceptions of her clients regarding Family Court procedures. A discussion between the audience, including several judges in attendance, and Ms. Rodriguez-Rexach completed the program.

Through the efforts of David Sullivan, various domestic violence prevention and services materials were distributed to the courthouses in the Third Judicial District for display during the month of October. Members of the Gender Fairness Committee were also alerted to an attorney services training program sponsored by the Legal Project of the Capital District Women's Bar Association which was conducted on September 23, 2000.

Page 2

November 15, 2000

To: Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin

Certain counties in the Judicial District also undertook special efforts for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, such as Greene County which annually holds a media event.

If you have any further questions on our Committee's efforts, please do not hesitate to call me.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,



Victoria A. Graffeo

VAG:ejh

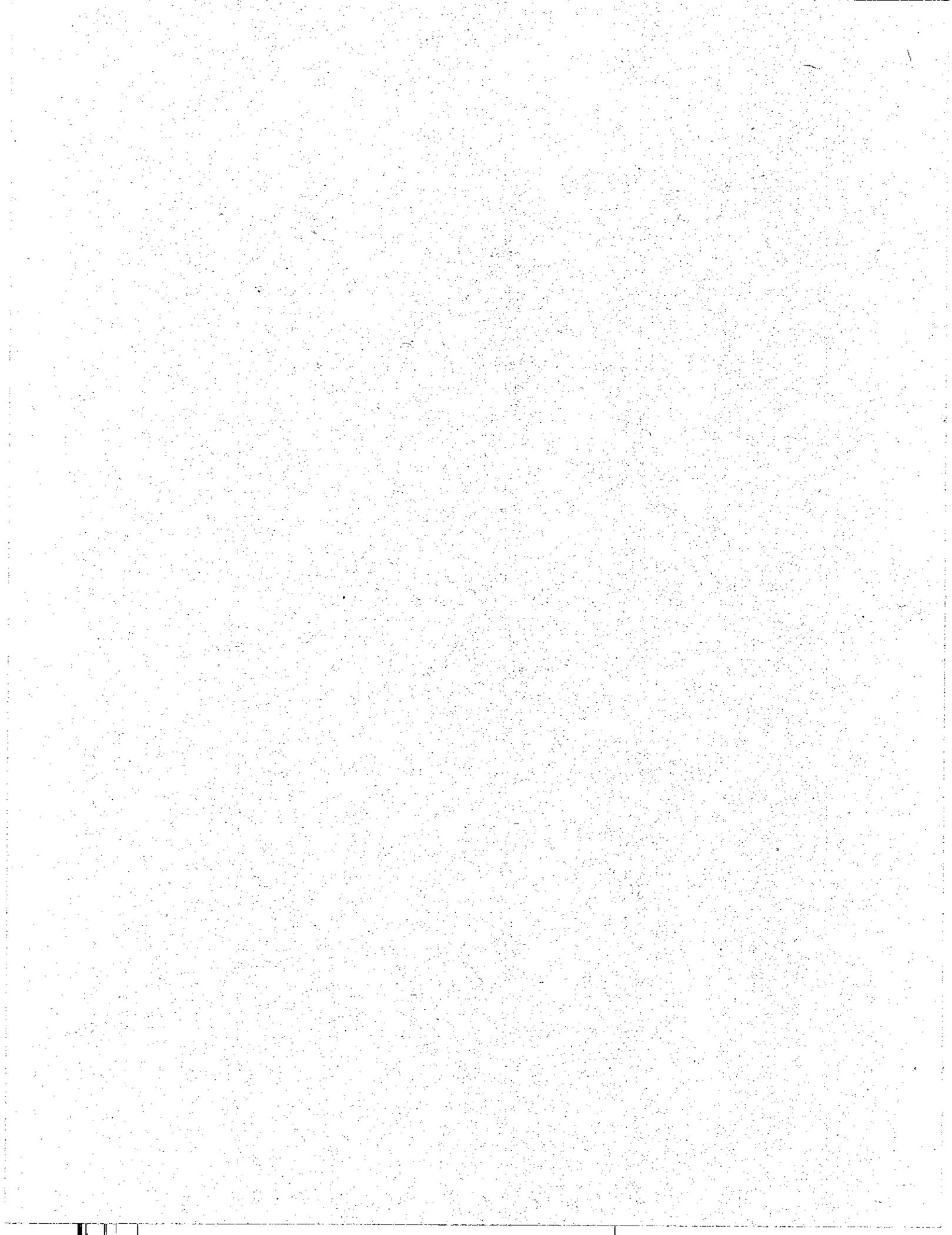
Fourth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

Eileen Kassner, Esq.
Chambers of Hon. Vincent Reilly, Jr
Schenectady County Supreme Court
612 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

Telephone: 518-388-4322
Fax: 518-377-5897

Nicole Duve, Esq.
Court Attorney
Franklin County Courthouse
355 West Main Street
Malone, NY 12953

Telephone: 588-481-1732



FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER BIAS COMMITTEE REPORT 2000 - 2001

Co-Chairs:

Hon. Hon. Nicole M. Duvé, Esq.
Franklin County Courthouse
63 West Main Street
Malone, NY 12953
Tel: 518-481-1732
Fax: 518-481-6704

Eileen B. Kassner, Esq.
Schenectady County Judicial Building
612 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

Principal Activities in the Past Year

We have incorporated a presentation on the Unified Court System's policies and procedures regarding sexual harassment in the work place into the Orientation Program for New Employees. The co-chairs make this presentation to all incoming employees.

We have also included this subject with great emphasis in the District's annual Managers' Meeting. This meeting includes all chief clerks, deputy chief clerks, commissioners of jurors, and law librarians. This meeting is addressed by the co-chairs of the Committee, as well as guest speakers from the Office of Court Administration.

Domestic Violence Awareness in the Workplace in was observed in October. All judges and employees received materials highlighting this important subject, covering signs of domestic violence, and suggested methods of approaching fellow workers in the courts who may be victims of domestic violence.

The District continued to provide updates of the Domestic Violence Bench Book to all judges, including 56 Supreme, county-level and city court judges, and over 300 Town and Village justices. We constantly monitor the development of the Bench Book to insure that judges have the most current information.

County-wide domestic violence committees. Many judges and chief clerks serve on these committees, including the following:

Clinton - Bonnie Dorman, Chief Clerk, Family Court

Montgomery - Hon. Felix J. Catena, Montgomery County Court, Hon. Howard Aison and Hon. Paul Wollman, Amsterdam City Court, and Melanie Hartman, Chief Clerk, Amsterdam City Court; Donna Caravella, Chief Clerk, Montgomery Family Court

St. Lawrence - Hon. David Nelson, Family Court, and Cecily Morris, Esq., Family Court

Schenectady - Melissa Mills, Deputy Chief Clerk, Schenectady County

Warren - Hon. David B. Krogmann, Glens Falls City Court; Hon. J. Timothy Breen, Warren Family Court, and AnneMarie LaVigne, Chief Clerk, Warren Family Court

Washington - Patricia Ross, Chief Clerk, Washington County Family Court

In addition, we have provided tapes of the domestic violence seminars to the programs in St. Lawrence and Essex counties for their local meetings.

Plans for Next Year - please refer to the attached.

Biggest Change in the Past 15 Years

There has been a lot of positive movement toward leveling the playing field between men and women in how they are treated in the court system, as litigants, attorneys and employees. As the number of women in the courts has increased, awareness of bias issues has increased as has acceptance of women as "players" rather than "spectators". The Unified Court System, in leading by example, has contributed to this change coming about by raising awareness through its many training forums and by implementing policies and procedures for addressing situations as they arise.

Work Remaining to be done

While much has been accomplished in the past 15 years, vigilance is still a necessity. Continued training is needed to raise the awareness of subtler forms of bias. These transgressions, by and large are committed on the personal or individual level, as opposed to the organizational level, but continue to be a factor in how judicial and nonjudicial personnel interact amongst themselves, and in how the public is perceived and treated. The Unified Court System needs to continue to lead by example in expressing zero tolerance for such behavior and by impressing upon all who use the court system the importance of respect, courtesy and professionalism.



STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
65 SOUTH BROADWAY, SUITE 101
SARATOGA SPRINGS, NEW YORK 12866
(518) 587-3019
FAX (518) 587-3179

JONATHAN LIPPMAN
Chief Administrative Judge

JOSEPH J. TRAFICANTI, JR.
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Courts Outside New York City

JAN H. PLUMADORE
District Administrative Judge
Fourth Judicial District

RONALD M. STOUT, JR.
Executive Assistant

MEMORANDUM

April 17, 2001

TO: Honorable Jan H. Plumadore

FROM: Hon. Nicole M. Duvé, Esq. and Eileen B. Kassner, Esq.,
Co-Chairs, Fourth Judicial District Gender Bias Committee

SUBJECT: Fourth Judicial District Gender Bias Committee Action Plan

The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the plan for carrying out the policies as established in our meeting of April 10, 2001.

There are seven target groups in the Fourth Judicial District toward whom our main efforts will be directed:

1. Supreme, County-Level and City Court Judges
2. Town and Village Court Judges
3. Members of the Bar
4. Chief Clerks, Commissioners of Jurors, and Law Librarians of the State-paid courts (State-paid Court Managers)
5. Law Clerks and Court Attorneys
6. Court Staff of the State-paid courts
7. Clerks of the Town and Village Courts

Each year, the District will identify a focus for the upcoming year's education and training efforts, after consultation with the Deputy Chief Administrative Judge and in line with the



STATE OF NEW YORK

**UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

measures suggested by the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts. This will help to ensure that the program will be meaningful for the needs of the judges and staff of the Fourth Judicial District, while reflecting the Statewide concerns in this important policy area. In 2001, the focus of the Gender Bias Committee will be sexual harassment. In 2002, the focus will be domestic violence.

JONATHAN LIPPMAN

Chief Administrative Judge

JOSEPH J. TRAFICANT II, JR.

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Courts Outside New York City

JAN H. PLUMADORE

District Administrative Judge
Fourth Judicial District

RONALD M. STOUT, JR.

Deputy Chief Administrative Judge

The implementation of this action plan is a work in progress. We will be in constant communication with you, the judges and staff of the Fourth District, and other resources to continue to develop specific programs for each target group. As programs are developed, we will keep you advised.

The programs that we have developed to date are as follows:

Supreme, County-Level and City Court Judges - Dean Silverberg's presentation to all Fourth District Judges on June 15, 2001 at Saratoga Springs.

Town and Village Court Judges - We will rely on the programs developed by the Education and Training Office to train this group.

Members of the Bar - A program will be developed for this group within the context of our ongoing best practices seminars. The next seminar is scheduled for June 21, 2001 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in Schenectady County.

Chief Clerks, Commissioners of Jurors, and Law Librarians of the State-paid courts (State-paid Court Managers) - Presentation by the Hon. Nicole M. Duvé, Eileen B. Kassner, Alice Chapman, and Desiree Kim at the Annual Spring Manager's Meeting on May 4, 2001 at Saratoga Springs. In addition, four of the new managers in the District will attend the New Supervisor's Training in Syracuse on May 1 - May 2, 2001 conducted by Career Development. Part of this program is devoted to sexual harassment issues.

Law Clerks and Court Attorneys - Staff in this target group will be initially reached through the New Employee Orientation and/or the District-wide training. However, a specialized program is under development for this group to address issues such as their responsibilities as attorneys, and considerations when informal comments and/or complaints are made to them about judicial officers.

Court Staff of the State-paid courts - Presentation by the Hon. Nicole M. Duve, at the New Employee Orientation, April 27, 2001 at Saratoga Springs. A District-wide training schedule is under development.

Clerks of the Town and Village Courts - As with the Town and Village Court Judges, we will rely on the programs developed by the Education and Training Office to train this group.

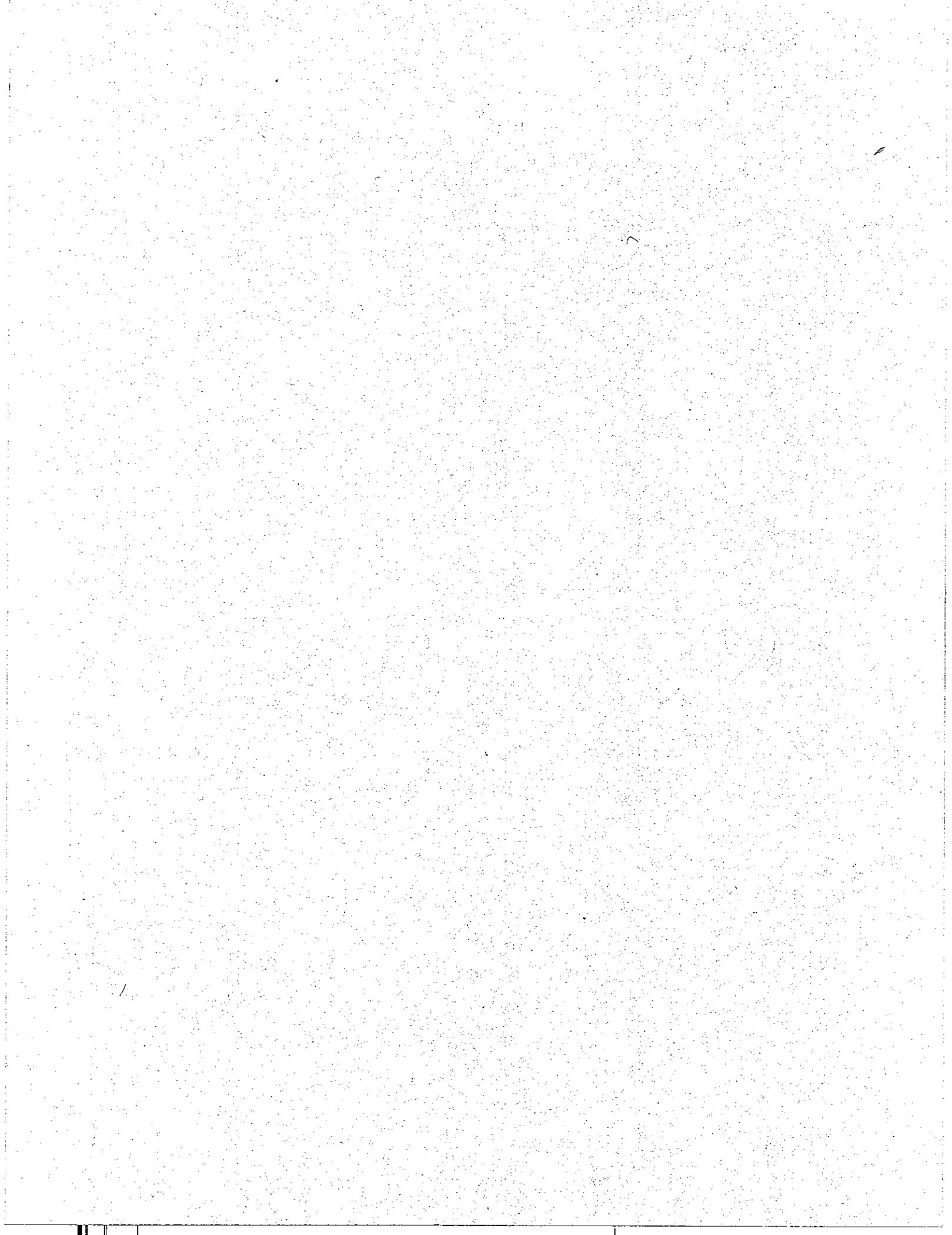
Thank you for the opportunity to assist the judges, staff and members of the bar in the Fourth District in this important endeavor.

Further memoranda of this nature will be prepared and submitted to you detailing development and implementations of our plan quarterly beginning July 1, 2001.

Fifth Judicial District Committee

Hon. Martha Walsh Hood, Chair
Onondaga County Family Court
Onondaga County Courthouse
Syracuse, New York 13202

Telephone: (315) 435-2054



LOCAL COMMITTEES 2000-2001

Name of the Committee: Women in the Courts Committee in the 5th Judicial District

Name, Address & Telephone/Fax No. of Chair:

Martha Walsh Hood, Part II, Onondaga County Family Court
Onondaga County Courthouse, Syracuse, NY 13202
315-671-2020 (Phone) - 315-671-1167 (Fax)

Meeting Dates in the Past Year: March 6, 2000, March 23, 2001

Principal Activities in the Past Year:

The Onondaga County Family Court extended the hours during which it will hear requests for orders of protection from one window in the afternoon to the full 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. workday. The Committee on Women in the Courts sought sponsors for Domestic Violence Awareness Resolutions in various County and Municipal Legislatures within the Fifth Judicial District. In addition various literature relating to domestic violence and its prevention were obtained for distribution to law enforcement agencies, hospitals and the courts.

Plans for Next Year:

April "White Ribbon Campaign," assist Vera House in advertisement at Courthouse. Place gender bias complaint notices in 5th Judicial District Newsletter, web site and bar reporters. Discuss development of forms of pro se litigants; Supreme Court for orders of protection.

SYRACUSE POST STANDARD
Friday, March 30, 2001
p. B14, col. 2

Jim O'HARA
COURTS WRITER

Judge talks from experience

The timing couldn't have been more appropriate as state supreme Court Justice Sandra Townes was the speaker at the recent Women of Courage Awards Dinner, which honored four local women for overcoming adversity.

"Do we ever think of ourselves as courageous? Look deep in our souls and say we are bold, brave, fearless and unafraid? Probably not," the judge noted in her remarks to the gathering. "No one can tell you that you are rich or poor by turning to your bank account; it is the heart that makes you rich. No one can tell you that you are courageous only when you fight a war, fly to space or climb Mount Everest; it is the strength in your spirit to get up every day and face real life that makes you courageous.

"When you have courage, you dare to go forward despite all hazards; you look forward and never backward," the judge continued.

Townes noted the four women being honored "have shown us their hearts, and through their courage dared us to feel more deeply, reach higher, step outside the circles that have been drawn around us."

She could just as easily have been talking about herself. The following day, some of the same attributes in Townes were honored when Gov. George Pataki announced her promotion to the state Supreme Court Appellate Division which is just one step below the state's highest court.

**Family Court of the
State of New York**

**Martha Walsh Hood
Judge**

**Kurt R. Sherman, Esq.
Counsel**



**County Court House
Syracuse, NY 13202**

**(315) 671-2020
Fax (315) 671-1167**

January 12, 2001

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Woman in the Courts
25 Beaver St., Room 878
New York, NY 10004

Re: Women in the Courts Committee in the 5th Judicial District

Dear Ms. Goodman:

Enclosed please find a copy of the press release prepared and submitted in October 2000 in connection with our efforts during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. If a more formal report is necessary please forward or fax the appropriate forms to my office.

Sincerely,


Martha Walsh Hood

Enc.

cc: John Voninski

PRESS RELEASE

The 5th Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts, chaired by Onondaga County Family Court Judge Martha Walsh Hood, is recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Domestic Violence is a crime and deep rooted societal problem with enormous and tragic consequences for abused individuals, children and families. Educating citizens about domestic violence and responses to the problem is one of the goals of the New York Courts Year 2000 Community Outreach initiative.

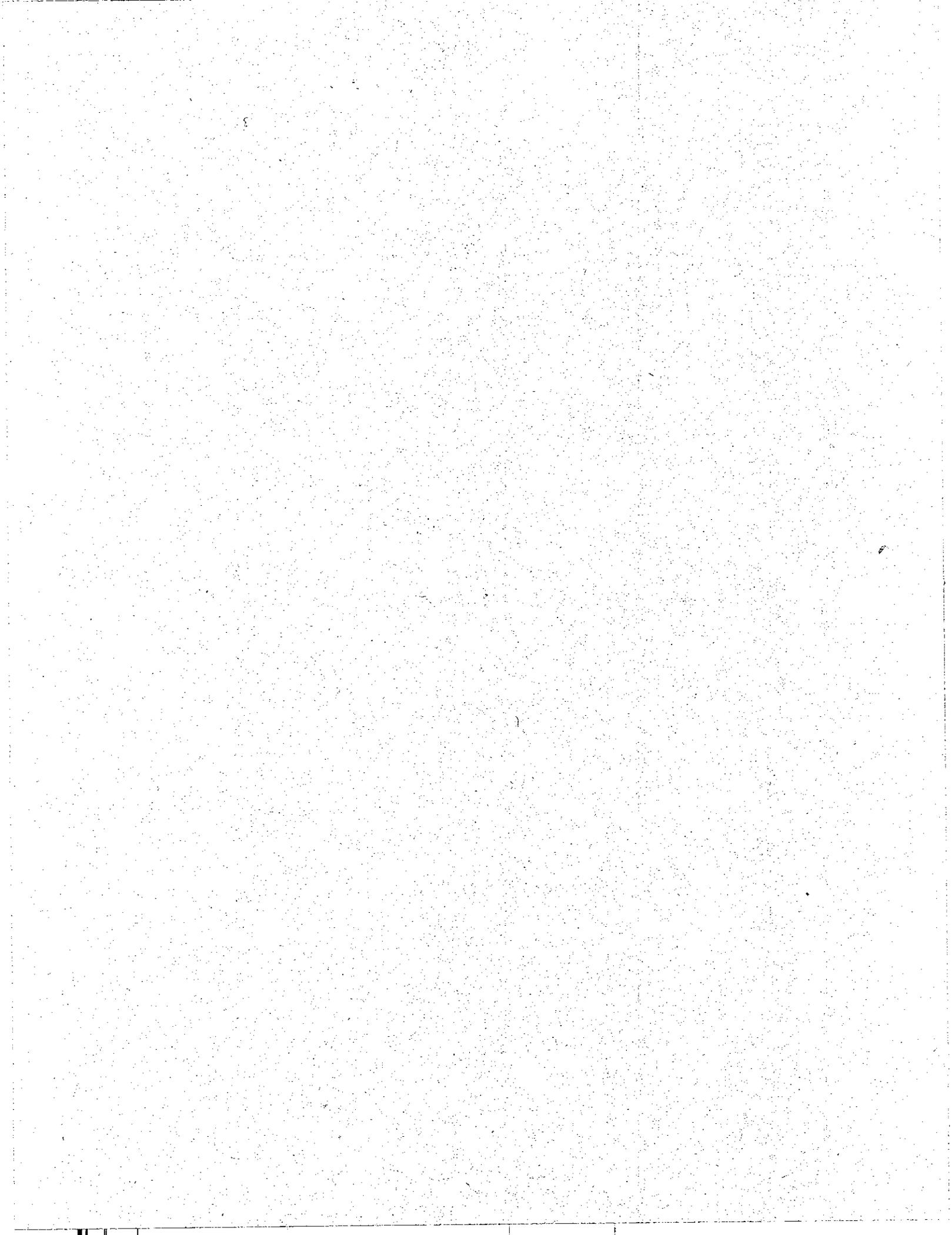
In connection with this Onondaga County Family Court has extended the hours during which it will hear requests for orders of protection from one window in the afternoon to the full 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. workday. The Committee on Women in the Courts has sought sponsors for Domestic Violence Awareness Resolutions in various County and Municipal Legislatures within the 5th Judicial District. In addition various literature relating to domestic violence and its prevention will be distributed to law enforcement agencies, hospitals and the courts later during the month of October.

Sixth Judicial District Committee

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann
Binghamton City Court
Governmental Plaza
Binghamton, New York 13901

Telephone: (607) 772-7006

Fax: (607) 772-7041





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

JOHN T. HILLIS
CITY COURT JUDGE

MARY ANNE LEHMANN
CITY COURT JUDGE

KAREN A. AMBROZIK
CHIEF CLERK

SHERRY L. BAKER
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

April 30, 2001

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

Re: Local Committee Report 2000

Dear Judge Ellerin:

It was a pleasure and inspiration as always, to see you for the 15th Anniversary Celebration of the Report of the NY Commission on Women in the Courts. It was a truly impressive event and in reflecting on the "miles" we've traveled and the miles we still have yet to go, I'm genuinely grateful that such an able group of people continues year in and year out, to work on these issues.

Enclosed is the Sixth Judicial District's report for the year 2000. We had quite a change over the year. Our Administrative Judge Robert Rose, went to the Appellate Division, our Acting Administrative Judge, Robert Coutant retired and moved to another state and now our former Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee, Judge Judith O'Shea, was appointed Administrative Judge. She is extremely supportive of the committee and it's efforts and will be of great assistance as we traverse the remaining "miles". Wishing you all the best, I remain

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Anne Lehmann".

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann
Binghamton City Court Judge

/sb

LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2000-2001

Name of the Committee _____ 6th Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

Name, Address, and Telephone and Fax Numbers of Chair _____

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann

City Hall Governmental Plaza, 5th Floor, Binghamton, NY 13901

(607) 772-7006

Principal Activities in the Past Year (2000) _____

- April 7, 2000 - A "Children's Room" was dedicated in Otsego Family Court, Judge Kaye attended.
- April 12, 2000 - Attended state-wide meeting of Gender Fairness Committee Chairs in NYC.
- April 27, 2000 - Take Your Child to Work Day
- September 18, 2000 - Hon. Judith F. O'Shea was appointed Administrative Judge. She is not only the first female Administrative Judge in our District, but she was also the former Chairperson of our district's Gender Fairness Committee
- October, 2000 - Domestic Violence Awareness information distributed all month.
- November 17, 2000 - District Gender Fairness Committee Meeting

Plans for Next Year(2001)

Again this year we plan to hold Take Your Child to Work Day programs. We will actively involve more courts in Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities. Binghamton City Court is currently implementing the utilization of a Children's Corner in the court waiting room Broome Family Court will be opening a child care facility at the court location. This will be run by the local Child Development Council.

JOHN T. HILLIS
CITY COURT JUDGE

MARY ANNE LEHMANN
CITY COURT JUDGE



KAREN A. AMBROZIK
CHIEF CLERK

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

Date: January 12, 2001

To: Jill Laurie Goodman
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York, 10004

Fax # 212-428-2793

From: Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann 
Chair, Sixth Judicial District
Gender Fairness Committee

Subject: October/National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

As you requested, this is a summary of the activities in the Sixth Judicial District associated with National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

- Binghamton and Elmira once again celebrated "Take Back the Night" which is a local anti-crime event with a special emphasis on women's safety issues.
- A Domestic Violence program was held at the Delaware County Courthouse (see the attached press release of October 25, 2000).
- New Hope Center put out a calendar of activities for the month of October including a candlelight vigil on October 11, Teen Activity Night on October 4, and month-long activities including a food drive, mural dedication, open house, and a book display at the Coburn Free Library (see the attached calendar).

Re: October-National Domestic Violence
Awareness Month

pg.2

- The Domestic Violence booklets were distributed throughout Broome County, including the SOS Shelter, the Crime Victims Center and the YWCA.
- Tompkins County and Broome County published articles in the local newspapers and Bar Association newsletters, Tompkins County Task Force for Battered Women newsletter raising community awareness about the issue.
- Chemung County Domestic Violence Council met on October 5th to dialogue regarding the Rural Domestic Violence Project (see attached memo).

This list is by no means comprehensive but highlights the activities the Sixth Judicial District was proud to take part in.

OCTOBER 25, 2000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM HELD AT DELAWARE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Delhi, New York— Public Awareness of Domestic Violence was the theme of two presentations today at the Delaware County Courthouse. Bobbi-Jo Hall and Wendy Geaslin from Safe Against Violence presented a video featuring interviews with victims and abusers. The video was followed by a true/false test of participants' knowledge of the statistics and facts about domestic violence in this country. The test answers sparked lively discussion of domestic violence, especially as it affects women in Delaware County.

Hall called upon her experience working at Safe Against Violence, a local multi-service center, which operates a shelter for victims of domestic violence, to debunk the "myths" that domestic violence doesn't occur in Delaware County families which include professional people or who are economically secure.

At the morning program, members of the public were joined by high school seniors from the New Visions: Law and Government class, whose classroom is in the Courthouse. The afternoon program was also attended by court personnel, including Nancy Smith, Chief Clerk, and Leonard E. Sienko, Jr., Court Attorney for Delaware County Courts.

Hall mentioned that Safe Against Violence is accepting donations of both cell phones and touch tone phones. The cell phones are reprogrammed with local emergency numbers and given to victims who are still in fear of their attackers, even after orders of protection have been entered by the courts. Regular touch tone phones are also needed in Delaware County to help overcome the isolation of victims who have no phone at home and no public phones in their community.

This Public Awareness of Domestic Violence Program was held at the Delaware County Courthouse as part of the "Courts 2000" public outreach program of the Office of Court Administration.

-30-

For further information:

Allison Barnes, County Court Clerk (607)-746-2131

Lori Metzko, Family Court Clerk (607)-746-2298

To Donate Phones:

Leonard E. Sienko, Jr. (607)-637-5400

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

A New Hope Center October 2000

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Activities



1 2 3 4 5 6 7
 Teen Activity Night

8 9 10 11 12 13 14
 Volunteer Training Begins 6-9 PM
 Candlelight Vigil

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28
 Movie Night
 Fried Green Tomatoes

29 30 31
 Month-long Activities: Food Drive
 Book Display @ the Coburn Free Library
 3 Open House & Mural Dedication

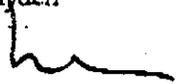
FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
CHEMUNG COUNTY

Marie A. Brewer
Chief Clerk

Rebecca L. Kelley
Deputy Chief Clerk

MEMORANDUM

To: Judge Brockway
Judge Buckley
Judge Hayden

From: Marie 

Date: October 12, 2000

Subject: Chemung County Domestic Violence Council

The members of the council and the representatives of the Rural Domestic Violence Project met on October 5, 2000 to continue dialogue surrounding policy development issues.

As the survey results are in and compiled for both the agency response and the victim response, these will be shared with the audience at the planned Policy & Development Workshop.

**Please mark your calendars — this workshop will be held on January 17, 2001 at the Chemung County Nursing Facility.

A complete agenda will be mailed prior to the workshop.

The committee continued to discuss the need for coordinated community response from all agencies involved, policy of those agencies, how implementation is done, and how monitored and evaluated. Training issues were also discussed. The outcome of the Policy and Development Workshop's goals will hopefully answer or begin to answer the above mentioned concerns.

If further discussion is needed, please feel free to contact me.

—



**PROVIDING ASSISTANCE
TO THE
COUNTIES OF**

**BROOME - CHEMUNG
CHENANGO - CORTLAND
DELAWARE - MADISON
OTSEGO - SCHUYLER
TIOGA - TOMPKINS**

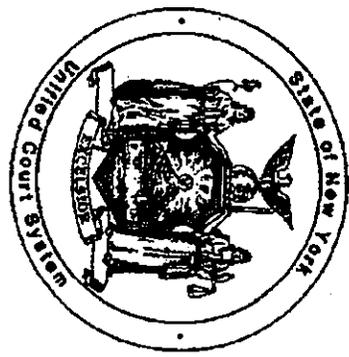
**PROMOTING GENDER FAIRNESS IN
THE COURTS AS IT RELATES TO:**

ATTORNEYS

COURT PERSONNEL

JUDGES

**NEW YORK STATE
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM**



**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

**HON. JUDITH F. O'SHEA
Administrative Judge**

**HON. MARY ANNE LEHMANN
Chair**

Gender fairness committees were created throughout New York State after the 1986 Report of a New York State Task Force on Women in the Courts found that gender bias in the Courts was a "pervasive problem".

The primary mission of the Sixth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee is to provide a forum for the informal resolution of gender bias complaints from litigants, court employees and members of the bar. The Committee is empowered to receive and review complaints and where necessary to refer complaints to the appropriate forum for resolution. The referrals are monitored to assure that some action is taken. The Committee is limited to accepting complaints involving individuals who are part of the legal system, that is, lawyers and New York Unified Court System Judges and nonjudicial employees.

The Gender Fairness Committee will process oral and written complaints, however, anonymous complaints will not be processed. Complaints may be submitted to any member of the Committee. All complaints received by the Gender Fairness Committee are considered to be confidential. However there may be disclosure to the Administrative Judge and or appropriate reviewing or disciplinary body.

Members of the Gender Fairness Committee also are available to provide information regarding the rights and obligations of attorneys, judges and court personnel. They

may also provide training and educational materials as needed.

**MEMBERS OF THE SIXTH
JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER
FAIRNESS COMMITTEE:**

Hon. Mary Anne Lehmann, Chair
Binghamton City Court
City Hall, Governmental Plaza
5th Floor
Binghamton, New York 13901
Phone: 607/772-7006

Hon. Judith F. O' Shea
Sixth Judicial District Administrative Office
State Office Building, Suite 1501
44 Hawley Street
Binghamton, New York 13901-4466
Phone: 607/721-8541

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

Stephen Foulk, Esq.
Law Clerk to Justice Robert S. Rose
Supreme Court Chambers
P.O. Box 1766
Binghamton, New York 13902
Phone: 607/778-2473

Emy L. Franz, Esq.
Tioga Family Court Hearing Examiner
P.O. Box 10
Owego, New York 13827
Phone: 607/687-0467

Gloria Chandler
Chief Clerk III/ Commissioner of Jurors
Otsego Supreme & County
P.O. Box 10
Cooperstown, New York 13326
Phone: 607/547-4364

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

Christopher J. Esworthy
Commissioner of Jurors
Broome County Courthouse
P.O. Box 1766
Binghamton, New York 13902-1766
Phone: 607/778-2159

**FOR FORMAL DISCRIMINATORY
COMPLAINTS CONTACT:**

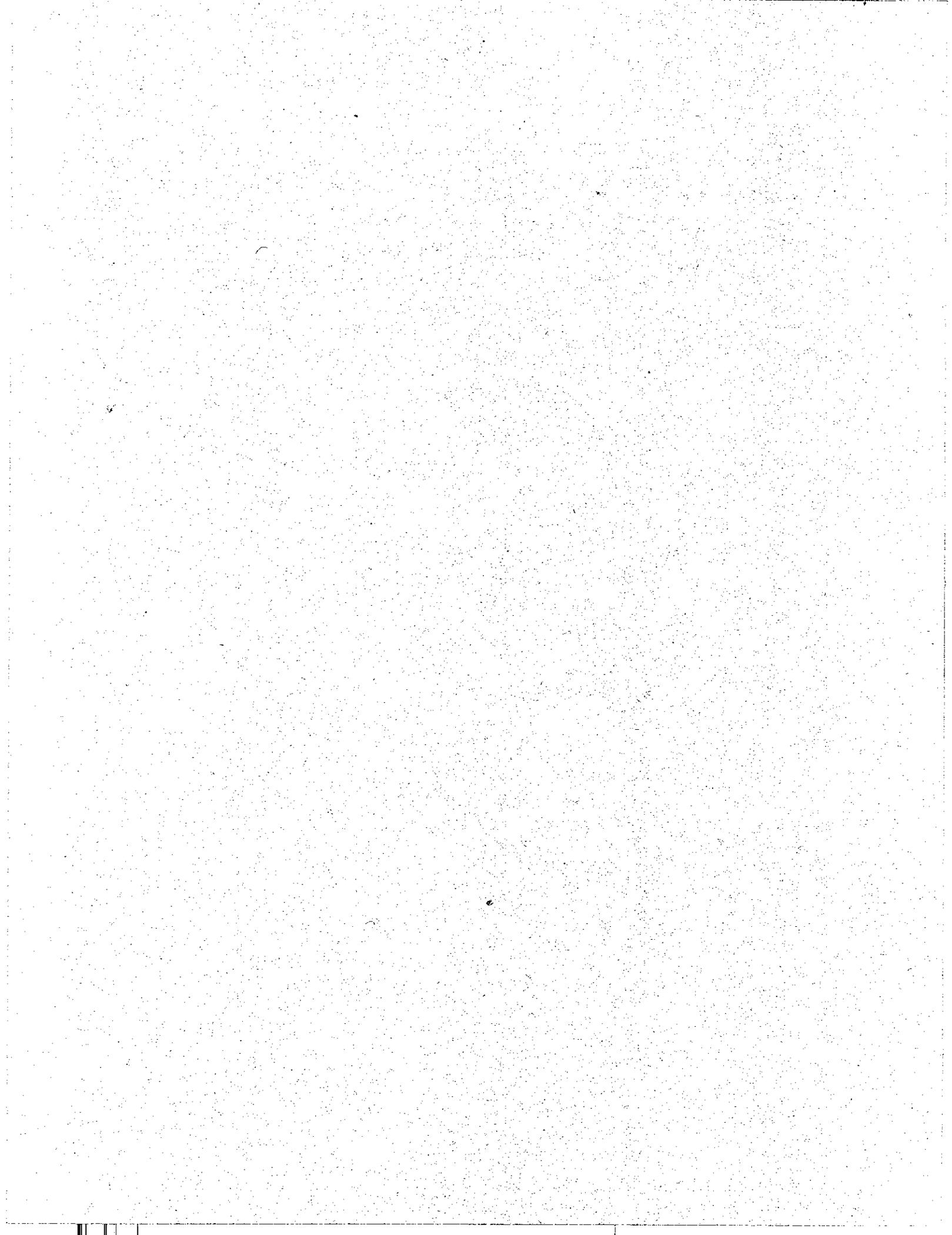
Desiree Kim
Special Inspector General for Bias Matters
25 Beaver Street - 11th Floor
New York, NY 10004
Phone: 212/428-2125

Seventh Judicial District

Hon. Ann Marie Taddeo
Supervising Judge
Monroe Family Court
300 Hall of Justice
Rochester, NY 14614-2187

Telephone: (716) 428-5488

Fax: (716) 428-4068



LOCAL COMMITTEES REPORTS 2000-2001

Name of Committee: The Seventh Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

Name, Address, and Telephone and Fax Numbers of Chair: Hon. Ann Marie Taddeo, Monroe County Family Court, Hall of Justice, Rochester, New York 14614 (716) 428-5488 (716) 428-4068 (fax).

Principal Activities in the past Year (2000):

- Every County in the 7th Judicial District had a program for domestic violence awareness month and conducted a number of innovative programs ranging from Domestic Violence awareness tables to presentations by area experts
- The Gender Fairness Committee co-sponsored a presentation on sexual harassment awareness for the Judges..
- The 7th Judicial District co-sponsored domestic violence training programs for Town and Village Justices, Law Guardians, and new Family Court Judges.
- A Russian/Ukrainian Domestic Violence Exchange Program
- A presentation by the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence regarding the issue of primary aggressor for Court and agency staff.
- The committee also sponsored a program in conjunction with the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys, for attorneys willing to represent Petitioners on a pro bono basis in the Monroe County Family Court Domestic Violence Intensive Intervention Court.
- All Unified Court System employees attended a half day session on the sexual harassment avoidance in the workplace.

Plans for Next Year (2001)

- Law Enforcement training update on Domestic Violence.
- Raising employee awareness throughout the District of information about the complaint process: local publications.
- Dissemination by distribution of palm cards and posters throughout the District of Domestic Violence emergency information.
- website updates

Do you have any flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee from this or any previous year?

Every County had a variety of flyers and programs. They are too numerous to include.

What is the biggest change in your Court or district in the past 15 years regarding the treatment of women?

- More awareness of the right to a harassment free work environment.
- There is more effort placed on hiring women in decision making and executive positions.

What work remains to be done regarding the treatment of women in your Court or district?

- I would like to see more information and research about the treatment of women litigants and also continued education regarding sexual harassment.

THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Briefly

409 Hall of Justice
Rochester, NY 14614

716/454-4242

FAX: 716/325-1388

TOD: 716/454-8837

[HTTP://WWW.COURTS.STATE.NY.US/WWW/JD7](http://www.courts.state.ny.us/www/jd7)

Vol. 28

No. 13

March 30, 2001

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 7/9/01 19th Annual Seventh Judicial District Golf Tournament Centerpointe Country Club, Canandaigua
- 7/9/01 Seventh Judicial District Tennis Tournament Location: TBA

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- 4/26/01 Take Your Children To Work Day Hall of Justice Rochester
- 4/27/01 New Employee Orientation Program Blue Cross Arena Rochester

NEW FIDUCIARY PROCEDURES

Seventh Judicial District Administrative Judge Thomas M. VanStrydonck has distributed new procedures for reporting fiduciary appointments to justices and judges and Supreme and County, Family, Surrogate's, and City Court Chief Clerks. The new procedures went into effect on March 26, 2001. Questions about fiduciary appointments and procedures should be directed to Sean Gleason, Esq., Law Clerk to Judge VanStrydonck and the District's Fiduciary Clerk.

GENDER FAIRNESS

The Seventh Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee met on Tuesday, March 27, 2001 to review the status of existing projects and to brainstorm regarding future plans. Seventh Judicial District Supervising Judge for Family Courts Ann Marie Taddeo, and Chairperson of the Committee, began the meeting by reviewing the numerous accomplishments of the Committee over the past year. During Domestic Violence Awareness month, the Committee co-sponsored the following initiatives: Domestic Violence Training programs for Town and Village Justices, Law Guardians, and new Family Court Judges; a Russian/Ukrainian Domestic Violence Exchange Program; a presentation by the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence regarding the issue of primary aggressor for Court and agency staff.



The Committee also sponsored a program, in conjunction with the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys, for attorneys willing to represent Petitioners on a pro bono basis in the Monroe County Family Court Domestic Violence Intensive Intervention Court. In addition, all Family Courts in the Seventh Judicial District have conducted a number of innovative initiatives ranging from Domestic Violence awareness tables to presentations by area experts. Judge Taddeo further discussed the recent training initiative sponsored by the Office of Court Administration, in which all Unified Court System employees attended a half-day session on the sexual harassment avoidance in the workplace.

It is the mission of the Gender Fairness Committee to educate the community, through effective communications and open dialogue, about gender fairness issues. Consistent with this mission, access to information regarding discrimination resolution procedures and claim forms are available on the Committee's web page which can be accessed directly from the Seventh Judicial District web site home page.

<i>What's New ...</i>	<i>Page</i>
Health Insurance: When Are Children Eligible for Coverage?	2
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SCAR Training Conducted	3
Thank You!!!	3
Justice Courts Satellite Teleconference	4
Monroe County Court Security Annual Report Part II	4
Human Resources	5
Management Support	6
Financial Support	6

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Programs



(Left to right: Hon. Ronald A. Cicoria, Hank Shaw; Hon. Gerard J. Alonzo)

Livingston County

Livingston County Court Judges **Honorable Ronald A. Cicoria** and **Honorable Gerard J. Alonzo** and the Livingston County Courthouse staff, in cooperation with Chances and Changes, hosted a domestic violence

program at the Livingston County Courthouse in Geneseo on October 26, 2000. The keynote speaker was Hank Shaw, author/advocate for awareness of violence against women.

Approximately 50 court employees, law enforcement personnel, County agencies, the media, and the general public attended the program. Domestic violence literature was distributed to all participants. These materials will continue to be made available in the display racks in Livingston County Family Court.

"Domestic Violence is a crime and deep rooted societal problem with enormous and tragic consequences for abused individuals, children and families. Educating citizens about domestic violence and the courts' role in responding to the problem is a key goal of the New York Courts' Year 2000 Community Outreach Initiatives."

Chief Judge Judith K. Kaye

Steuben County

Domestic violence programs were held in Steuben County on October 23, 2000. Two sessions were scheduled in Bath. The morning program was for employees of the Steuben County Courts, including Hornell City Court and Corning City Court. The four-hour afternoon program was attended by employees, Steuben County Church People Against Poverty, and employees of a Steuben County domestic violence organization called NET.

Presenters for these domestic violence programs were Kelly Adams and Tina Yarrison of NET. One of the interesting statistics mentioned was that 39,000 Americans died during the Vietnam conflict. During that same time period 17,000 people died as a result of domestic violence.

All participants were given a purple ribbon to wear in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Informational materials were also available.

Ontario County

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Ontario County Family Court hosted a presentation on "Domestic Violence Proceedings in Family Court" on Thursday, October 26, 2000. The focus of the presentation was the dissemination of information and discussion of procedures specifically related to the family offense filing process in Ontario County. The program was geared to service providers and law enforcement personnel.

Presenters included members of Family Counseling of the Finger Lakes Domestic Violence Program, the Ontario County Probation Department, and the Ontario County Family Court. Attendees included members of Ontario County agencies such as Department of Social Services, Probation, Mental Health, and the District Attorney's Office; Family Counseling; Legal Assistance; law enforcement personnel, the media, and the general public.

Wayne County

On Friday, October 27, 2000, an Open House was held in the Wayne County Hall of Justice in Lyons. Local officials and businesses, county agencies, and the public were invited to participate.

Wayne County Court Judge **Stephen R. Sirkin** greeted the more than 35 participants as he handed out the agenda for the speakers and tours scheduled. Wayne County Court Judge **Dennis M. Kehoe** gave an opening presentation. New York State Assembly Member **Robert Oaks**, **Richard DeValk, Esq.**, Member of the Seventh Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee, **Joyce Wheat** and **Jennifer Gregory** of the Victim Resource Center as part of the Domestic Violence Awareness Month, **Nancy Smith** of the Center for Dispute Settlement, and **Daniel M. Wyner, Esq.** each gave a brief presentation followed by a question-and-answer session. Explanations of the functions of Supreme, County, Family, and Surrogate's Courts were given during a tour of the building. Participants were able to view the security monitors and the informational brochures and booklets provided in the display rack that was hung several months ago.

As part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, each attendee was provided a Court 2000 folder which included the Wayne County Informational Sheet, bumper sticker, brochures, bookmark, and other information concerning domestic violence awareness and services available through local agencies.

2000 Election Results

Several new judges were elected to courts within the Seventh Judicial District on Election Day, November 7, 2000. They are:

<u>Supreme Court:</u>	Honorable David D. Egan (previously appointed)
<u>Monroe County Court:</u>	Honorable Elma A. Bellini (previously appointed) Judge-elect Richard Keenan
<u>Monroe County Family Court:</u>	Judge-elect John J. Rivoli Judge-elect Marilyn L. O'Connor
<u>Wayne County Court:</u>	Judge-elect John B. Nesbitt

Honorable Stephen R. Sirkin of Wayne County Court and Honorable Teresa D. Johnson of Rochester City Court were unopposed for re-election.

Domestic Violence Awareness Programs

Seneca County

On October 17, 2000, Tom Lamopoulos, a Family Counseling and Danger Cases Unit presented a half-hour informational session to Seneca County court employees and to the court's victim assistance center for the County of Seneca. Settlements Family Unit presented an overview of domestic violence, the signs, modes, and the services available by her agency. A question and answer session followed. Informational pamphlets were given to all participants and a supply was placed in the court's information area for availability to the public.

Wayne County

On October 30, 2000, Wayne County court employees held a roundtable meeting with court security and court attendants. The meeting was led by Ann Christy, Family Violence Coordinator. Domestic violence in the workplace was discussed. Pamphlets were provided with a more detailed material will also be made available in the court's atrium by the court attendants.

Monroe County

On October 26, 2000, Bob Passonno from the New York State Office for the Victims of Domestic Violence conducted a workshop on domestic violence and the role of the primary aggressor. Participants at the workshop from various agencies and Monroe County that deal with domestic violence, Monroe County Family Court Domestic Violence Court, Rochester City Court, Society for the Protection and Care of Children, Town of Gates Police Department, Public Defender's Office, Social Aid Society, Alternatives for Battered Women, and several judges and judicial hearing officers from throughout the Seventh Judicial District.

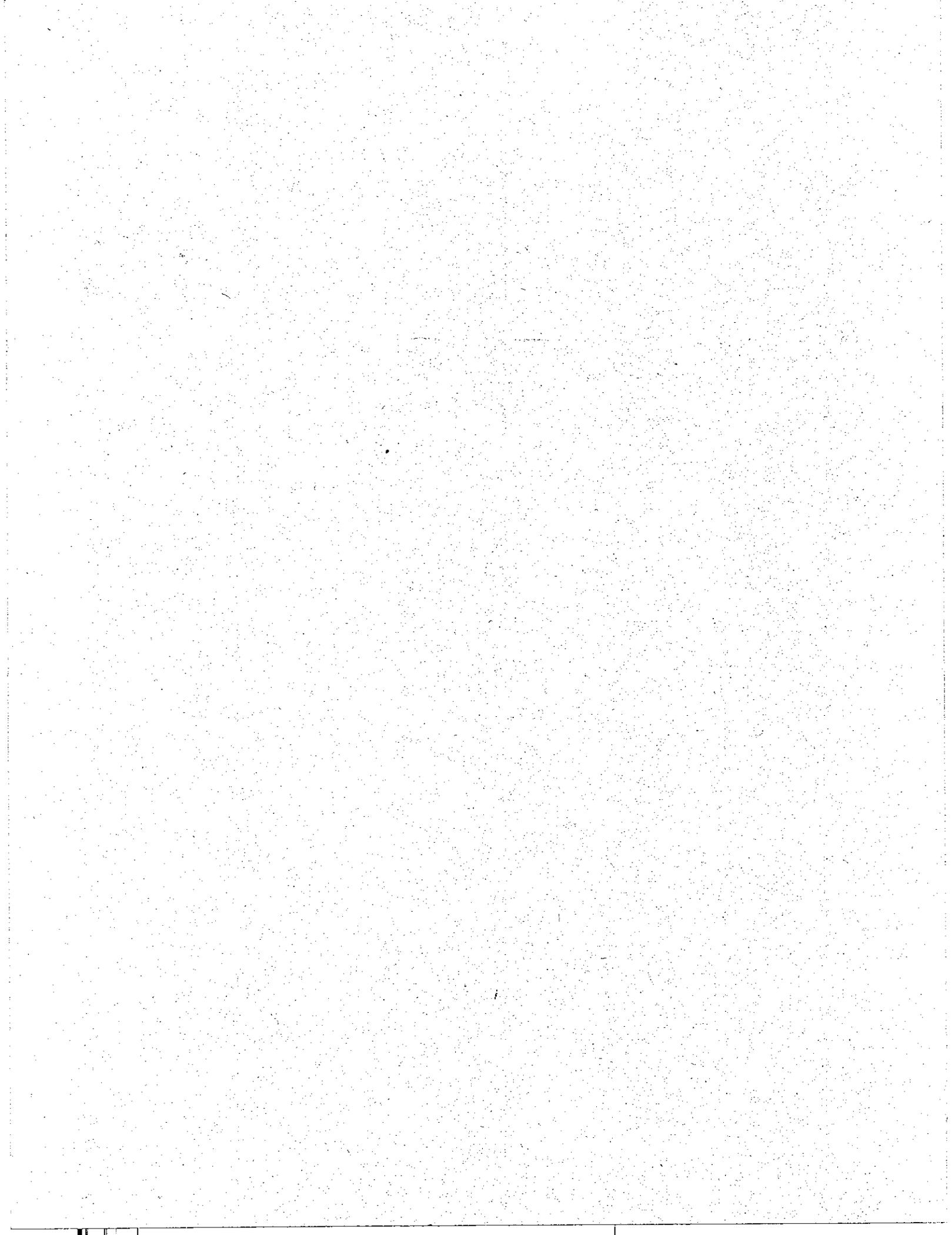
Mr. Passonno is a former police officer who has practical as well as theoretical knowledge. His high energy and information would have been enough for a full day session instead of just one hour. He actually ran past the 60 clock and people stayed until the end. Mr. Passonno first went over the basic dynamics of domestic violence, then went on to outline the primary aggressor and how to determine who it is. He addressed every agency that was there and how they could or should handle specific situations. He stressed how domestic violence is also prevalent in all agencies and how everyone should work together across agency lines to have a coordinated community response to successfully address the problem.

The feedback was positive. Hopefully, Mr. Passonno will train again in the future.

Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Hon. Sheila Di Tullio
Judge, Erie County Court
92 Franklin Street, Part 3
Buffalo, New York 14202

Telephone: (716) 858-2143 or 21242





County Court

ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202

SHEILA A. DI TULLIO
COUNTY JUDGE

716-858-2143

April 2, 2001

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
New York State Judicial Committee on Women in Courts
80 Center Street, Room 502
New York, New York 10014

Re: Eighth Judicial District Gender Bias and Racial Fairness Committee

Dear Ms. Goodman:

Pursuant to your request, enclosed please find the Eighth Judicial District Gender Bias and Racial Fairness Committee Report 2000-2001, which was faxed to you on this date.

Most sincerely,

SHEILA A. DiTULLIO
Erie County Court Judge

SAD/kmp
Encl.



County Court

ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202

SHEILA A. DI TULLIO
COUNTY JUDGE

716-858-2143

FAX TRANSMISSION
716-851-3334

TO: JILL LAURIE GOODMAN FAX # 1-212-428-2793

NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

FROM: HON. SHEILA A. DiTULLIO FAX # (716) 851-3334
COUNTY COURT PART 3 TEL # (716) 858-2143

DATE: April 2, 2001 PAGES: 12
(Including cover sheet)

AS REQUESTED

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

PLEASE CALL ME

FOR YOUR ACTION

OTHER ACTION TO BE TAKEN AND/OR COMMENTS:

ATTACHED IS THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER BIAS AND RACIAL
FAIRNESS COMMITTEE'S REPORT 2000-2001.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2000-2001

Name of the Committee:

Eighth Judicial District Gender Bias and Racial Fairness Committee

Name, Address, and Telephone and Fax Numbers of Chair:

Hon. Sheila A. DiTullio, J.C.C.

County Court Part 3

92 Franklin Street

Buffalo, New York 14202

Telephone: (716) 858-2143

Fax: (716) 851-3334

Principal Activities in the Past Year (2000):

Please see enclosed summary report letter dated January 3, 2001 and Memorandum dated September 28, 2000.

Plans for Next Year (2001):

The Committee is planning a May 14, 2001 spring luncheon in honor of Women's History Month. We have conducted numerous meetings concerning this luncheon, the purpose of which is to honor various women within the court system and the legal community as a whole, who have contributed significantly to our justice system. Please find enclosed our letter announcing the luncheon to the award recipients dated March 23, 2001 (obviously Jill, you are invited to this luncheon, and we would be honored to have you in attendance).

At the Committee's January, 2001 meeting, there was discussion concerning inappropriate remarks allegedly made by court personnel in one of the local courts. As a result of that discussion the committee decided to publish an article in our monthly court newsletter, *The Docket*, explaining that the Committee does exist, what our purpose is, and whom to contact if necessary (please find a copy of *The Docket* article for your information). In addition, as a result of that January 11th meeting, Harold Brand from the Unified Court System (Eighth Judicial District) scheduled a sexual harassment seminar for all justices and judges in the Eighth Judicial District which was held on February 16, 2001.

The same seminar will be held on April 6, 2001 for those who were unable to attend the February session. Dean Silverberg, Esq., of Epstein, Becker and Green, P.C., a New York City law firm, has conducted this seminar and it has been received exceptionally well. Also, I distributed to all Committee members a listing of the Anti-Discrimination Panel Members for the Eighth Judicial District as well as the forms for the New York State Special Inspector General For Bias Matters, and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission information.

Do you have any flyers or programs from events or written materials about your committee from this or any previous years? If so, please include copies:

Please see attached.

What is the biggest change of your court or district in the past 15 years regarding the treatment of women?

Within our district, we have seen an increase in the number of women in higher level positions within the court system, as well as an increase in the number of women on the bench. Our thus broadened cross-section of people in positions of influence has resulted in a more inclusive atmosphere and a heightened appreciation of the fact that there must be fairness and equality within our system at every level.

What work remains to be done regarding the treatment of women in your court or district?

Despite substantial gains, the last few meetings of our Committee have revealed that there needs to be a constant reminder to all those working within the court system that this Committee exists and what options they have if they experience gender or racial bias. We have attempted to achieve that goal through sexual harassment training seminars for supervisors and judges as well as reminding everyone within the court system of the Anti-Discrimination Panel through which they can go in order to formally file a complaint.

Please return this form (with flyers and other written materials) by March 5, 2001, to:

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts
25 Beaver Street, Room 878
New York, New York 10004



County Court

ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202

SHEILA A. DI TULLIO
COUNTY JUDGE

716-858-2142

January 3, 2001

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
New York State Judicial Committee on Women in Courts
80 Center Street, Room 502
New York, New York 10014

Re: Eighth Judicial District Gender Bias and Racial Fairness Committee

Dear Ms. Goodman:

This is a summary report concerning the Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee's efforts during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October, 2000. As I indicated in our recent telephone conversation, timing is everything, and I found myself rather unexpectedly involved in a State Supreme Court campaign shortly after I received the appointment as the Chairperson of this Committee. Nevertheless, I conducted a meeting with the full committee on September 19, 2000 at which we discussed our plans and priorities for the remainder of the year, which of course included activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

With the kind assistance of Harold Brand (Eighth Judicial District Executive Assistant) and Marie Villari (Senior Management Analyst) we scheduled four programs throughout our District with all supervisory personnel, to discuss the details of the new domestic policy issued by Chief Judge Judith Kaye. As a result of the efforts of Mr. Brand and Ms. Villari, these four meetings were well-attended, successful and informative. Marie and Harry were joined by staff and judges in presenting the policy and training supervisors on its specifics; it was a perfect fit for what I feel our committee should be doing.

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel

Re: Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee

Page 2

January 3, 2001

Enclosed please find the memo concerning the four programs we conducted in October, 2000. I am planning a meeting for the full committee on January 11, 2001 concerning activities for the new year. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call. I am new in this position and would appreciate any advice or suggestions you may have.

Most sincerely,



SHEILA A. DiTULLIO
Erie County Court Judge

SAD/kmp

Encl.

- c: Justice Vincent E. Doyle (Eighth Judicial District Administrative Judge)
Harold Brand (Eighth Judicial District Executive Assistant)
Marie Villari (Eighth Judicial District Senior Management Analyst)



STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

206 ERIE COUNTY HALL
92 FRANKLIN STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202-3979
(716) 852-2850
FAX (716) 852-3510

JONATHAN LIPPMAN
Chief Administrative Judge

VINCENT E. DOYLE
District Administrative Judge
Eighth Judicial District

JOSEPH J. TRAFICANTI, JR.
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Courts Outside New York City

September 28, 2000

HAROLD J. BRAND, JR.
Executive Assistant

MEMORANDUM

**TO: CHIEF CLERKS, AGENCY SUPERVISORS
And SECURITY SUPERVISORS
Eighth Judicial District**

FROM: HARRY BRAND

**RE: UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POLICY -
8th JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER & RACIAL FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**

The Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee, at a recent meeting, decided that an appropriate focus for its activities would be the recently articulated above captioned policy issued by Chief Judge, Hon. Judith S. Kaye for all employees in the Unified Court System. The Committee is now Chaired by **Hon. Sheila A. DiTullio**, Erie County Court Judge, by appointment of District Administrative Judge, Hon. Vincent E. Doyle.

As you know, October has been designated as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Therefore, the Committee has decided to hold meetings throughout the District in a variety of locations for **all supervisory personnel, regardless of grade or title, to include supervisors in security details under contract with the court system.**

We are copying all Justices and Judges who are welcome to attend. In the alternative, they may wish to discuss the subject of the meeting with their Chief Clerks.

Wednesday, October 18th

Batavia
Assemble at Surrogate Court
2nd Floor
Genesee County Courts Facility
1 West Main Street

10:00 A.M.

September 28, 2000

Page 2

Wednesday, October 18th	Niagara Falls Report to Family Court; 1 st Floor Civic Bldg. Third Street & Cedar	1:00 P.M.
Thursday, October 19 th	Olean Cattaraugus Family Court 1701 Lincoln Avenue Part 3, Second Floor	9:30 A.M.
	Mayville Gerace Office Building Room 222	12:30 P.M.
Wednesday, October 25 th	Buffalo City Court Conference Rm. Buffalo City Court 50 Delaware Avenue - 7 th Floor	8:30 A.M.

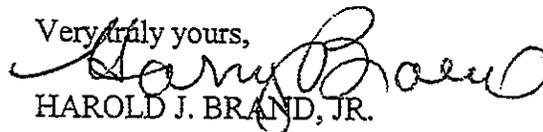
The Niagara Falls and Mayville meetings will include lunch. Accordingly, it is imperative that all Chief Clerks and Agency Supervisors notify Dee or Dawn in the District Administrative Office who will attend those meetings. Coffee will be available at all morning meetings. We expect that the meetings will last approximately 60 to 90 minutes.

Committee and Anti-Discrimination panel members are invited to whichever meetings their schedules permit.

If you have any questions, you may contact the undersigned or Marie Villari.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,



HAROLD J. BRAND, JR.

HJB:jn

C: Hon. Vincent E. Doyle
Hon. Sheila A. DiTullio
All Justices & Judges
Marie Villari



County Court

ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202

SHEILA A. DI TULLIO
COUNTY JUDGE

716-858-2143

March 23, 2001

Ms. Donna Emo
P.O. Box 76
Mayville, New York 14757

Dear Ms. Emo:

On behalf of the 8th Judicial District's Women in the Courts/Gender and Racial Fairness Committee, we are pleased to advise you that you have been selected for an Outstanding Women in the Law Award.

A luncheon has been planned for Monday, May 14, 2001 to honor eight outstanding women selected at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 120 Church St., Buffalo at 12:00 noon. The luncheon will recognize those exceptional women, such as yourself, who have served with excellence in their professional roles.

The honorees, in addition to yourself, are: Grace Marie Ange, Esq.; Lillian Cowan, Esq.; Patricia Fogarty, Esq.; Jeannine Lee, Senior Law Librarian, Supreme Court; Hon. Ann Mikoll, Retired Appellate Division Justice, Third Department; Sharon Thomas, Chief Clerk, Buffalo City Court and Hon. Shirley Troutman, Buffalo City Court Judge.

Please forward to our office an updated biography along with a 5x7 or 8x10 black and white photograph for our publicity purposes.

We congratulate you for your accomplishments and look forward to seeing you on May 14, 2001. We will be sending out more information regarding the luncheon to the local bar associations and courthouses to give your colleagues an opportunity to attend.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

SHEILA A. DiTULLIO
Women in the Courts/Gender & Racial Fairness Committee
Chairperson

SAD:mv

C: Hon. Vincent E. Doyle
Harry Brand, Esq.

NYS Unified Court System



The Docket



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2001

Eighth Judicial District

Chief Judge Presents State of the Judiciary Address

On Monday, January 8, 2001, **Chief Judge Judith Kaye** delivered her State of the Judiciary Address at the Court of Appeals in Albany. The speech addressed such issues as problem-solving within the court system, operational initiatives and internal improvements, public trust and confidence measures, and court restructuring and assigned counsel rates.

The speech is available on the Internet and can be accessed from the Unified Court System's website at www.courts.state.ny.us. The speech will also be archived on the Internet so that it can be viewed by the public for the calendar year. In addition, the written text of the speech will be available at the same site. Due to bandwidth limitations and limited speakers, most court employees will not be able to access the speech from their work stations. Those that are interested may choose to view the speech from one's home if they are equipped to do so.

Top Judicial Leaders from Across the Country Assemble in New York for Nation's 1st Jury Summit

Judicial Leaders from 43 states and over 20 federal courts across the country assembled in New York to participate in the nation's first Jury Summit. Hosted by the New York State Unified Court System and the National Center for State Courts, the Jury Summit was designed to encourage national exchange of ideas on the jury system and stimulate further jury reform across the country.

The Jury Summit was attended by over 350 individuals including **Supreme Court Justice Barbara Howe; Mehrl King, Erie County Commissioner of Jurors; Rosemary Ward, Niagara County Commissioner of Jurors and Statewide President of the Commissioner of Jurors Association; and James M. Kieffer, Esq. WNY Trial Lawyers.** Buffalo City Court Judge, Shirley Troutman gave a presentation at the Jury Summit on the topic of Juror Hardship.

Continued on page 2.

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Calendar of Events

February 19

Holiday

Washington's Birthday

March 2

New Employee Orientation
Supreme Court Library Buffalo

March 24

Districtwide Town & Village
Justice Training- Amherst

March 31

Districtwide Town & Village
Justice Training-Batavia

March 31

Deadline to submit
CSEA Co-payment vouchers

Human Resources Update

GENDER FAIRNESS & ANTI-DISCRIMINATION PANEL COMMITTEE MEETING

The Gender Fairness and Anti-Discrimination Panel Committee chaired by Erie County Court Judge Sheila A. DiTullio recently met to discuss initiatives for 2001. The committee, along with local Bar Associations, will be sponsoring the 2nd Annual Luncheon to honor Women in the Law on Thursday, April 26, 2001 at the Golden Ballroom of the Statler Hotel in Buffalo.

Anyone interested in nominating an outstanding woman who has served with excellence in their professional role or has contributed significantly to the community at large should send the nomination and letter stating the nominee's accomplishments to Judge DiTullio at Erie County Court, 92 Franklin St. or fax it to Harry Brand. Nominees are welcome from the judiciary, practicing and non-practicing bar, law enforcement, legal education, community leaders, as well as court staff. Nominations should be submitted no later than February 28th. The award recipients will be announced in March along with information regarding ticket sales for the event.

The Gender Fairness Committee also discussed ongoing measures to ensure that court staff is aware of remedies available should they experience discrimination or harassment. The Gender Fairness Committee, does not receive and investigate complaints, however, they are available to provide information as to options available to deal with complaints. One of the Options is the Anti-Discrimination Panel. The Anti-Discrimination Panels were formed to provide Unified Court System employees with an informal alternative to filing a formal, written complaint related to discrimination or sexual harassment. Panel members are fellow employees in the UCS chosen for this assignment on the basis of their ability to listen to people and find sensible solutions to problems. They are available to meet with employees to hear concerns and give immediate and practical assistance. Chief among their responsibilities is helping employees sort out their options.

Panel members are trained to understand the need for confidentiality and will respect an employee's interest in keeping the matter private.

The following are the 8th Judicial District's Anti-Discrimination Panel Members:

Clarence Charity
Deputy Chief Clerk
Buffalo City Court
847-8200

Brenda Heath
Associate Court Attorney (Trial Part)
Orleans County MultiBench Court
589-4457

Jennifer Ellicott
Principal Office Assistant
Erie County Surrogate Court
854-7867

Ruby Olive
Court Clerk
Erie Supreme/County Courts
851-3236

Linda Fogle
Principal Office Assistant
Niagara County Court
439-7153

Sheila Schwanekamp
Associate Court Attorney
Erie Supreme/County Courts
851-3450

Hon. Jerome Gorski
Supreme Court Justice
8th Judicial District
851-3363

Michelle Tendorf
Court Assistant
Buffalo City Court
847-8200

For more information regarding the Anti-Discrimination Panel, please contact the Workforce Diversity Office, 25 Beaver St., Room 10009, NY, NY 10004. Telephone (212) 428-2540.



SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1991

SECTION D

Social Affairs / D2

Entertainment / D3

Comics / D4

Television / D5

People BITE & BARS IN THE BOUTIQUE

WOMANSCOPE



Pat Swift

Justice rules in the court of public opinion

Some women want to be called "girls" again, reclaiming a designation they think enhances their liberation. Not too many years ago women across the state fought a major battle to shed that label and, in an unrepentant mood, they will be celebrating their success next month.

Lawyers, judges, clerks and legislators will gather in New York City April 4 to mark the day 15 years ago when the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts called a halt to the wholesale bias against women in the state's judicial system.

The task force's 274-page report, released on April 22, 1986, contained evidence gathered in two years of meetings, public hearings, interviews and questionnaires showing women were denied equal justice, equal treatment and equal opportunity in the state's judicial system.

Public and private attorneys, judges, legislators, academics and women's advocates who made up the task force said gender bias happened when decisions and actions were based on preconceived notions of gender roles rather than on a fair and unswayed appraisal of merit.

Seminars for judges, lawyers and court personnel made courtrooms less hostile to women.

They found gender bias in laws written by and for men that seriously discriminated against women. They noticed that most judges, law clerks and district attorneys were male and how that

alone tipped the scales against women. Among court employees, women were in the lowest-paying jobs while men dominated the high-grade, high-paying positions.

Female attorneys told many tales of the system's built-in bias. Nothing angered them more than when a judge referred to them as girls, called them honey, commented on their physical attributes or ignored them. They said that conduct not only diminished them, it hurt their clients.

Having identified the problems, the task force gave way to a committee to implement its recommendations which in turn became today's New York Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts.

The statewide organization and its local committees have effected a sea change in the judicial system's attitudes, laws, procedures and personnel.

Seminars for judges, lawyers and court personnel made courtrooms less hostile to women.

With public meetings, publications and professional programs, the committee expedited statutory reforms in the prosecution of rape and sexual assault, domestic violence, sexual harassment, child support awards and the distribution of marital property.

Professional codes eased discrimination against women in law firms and more women moved into public office. Women comprised 20 percent of judges in 1996 compared to 11 percent in 1986. Women in nonjudiciary jobs began to move up. In 1986, they held 35 percent of the highest-grade jobs. Ten years later they had 48.8 percent of them.

Problems, never previously addressed, were solved. Children brought to court by their parents, usually mothers, were a distraction for the litigant and the court. The task force's suggestion that courts provide supervised waiting rooms for children grew into at least 14 centers for children providing extended services for them and their families.

Other problems were more difficult. Women's progress in the profession, especially in law schools, has not been as great as anticipated, sexual harassment persists, women's greater family burdens require a flexibility that the system does not always provide and many statutory reforms need fine-tuning.

Among those at the April 4 conference, "Miles Traveled and Miles to Go," will be County Judge Sheila A. DiTullio, current chairwoman of the Eighth Judicial District's Gender Bias and Racial Fairness Committee. The late State Supreme Court Justice M. Doloras Denman was the district's first chairwoman, followed by former Family Court Judge Marjorie M. Mix.

ching Buffalo aw Journal

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sity at
taught at the UB Law School from 1967-75. Shubha Ghosh, UB law professor and recognized intellectual-property law scholar, is the journal's main advisor.

"Everyone from inventors to authors, architects, designers, scientists, artists, composers and musicians always has sought to legally protect and secure their ideas from those who might try to claim them," says Dariush Keyhani, the journal's founder and editor-in-chief.

Intellectual property law is of interest not only to those who teach it and members of the legal profession, he points out, but also to the "little guy" whose intellectual property, design or expression could be stolen; as well as to universities and corporations that invest in research and development to create new scientific breakthroughs.

"But often it's the 'little guys' who have been the most vulnerable, ending up on the short end of the stick with little or no monetary reward for their efforts," Keyhani said.

The annual subscription rate is \$25. The journal is accepting articles for consideration in future issues. Additional information about the Buffalo Intellectual Property Law Journal is available on its Web site, <http://www.wings.buffalo.edu/law/iplawjournal>.

Support for the first issue is being provided by Hodgson, Russ LLP. Additional support is provided by Lexis-Nexis Publishing. **B**

Advancement

The number of women in the House of Delegates has increased for the third year in a row. Since these positions frequently serve as stepping-stones to higher offices in the ABA, these may translate into important future opportunities.

The Goal IX Report Card illustrates that one area in which ABA continues to lead within the leadership ranks of the sec-

Luncheon will Honor Women in the Law

In celebration of Women in the Law and Women's History Month, the 8th Judicial District's Gender and Racial Fairness Committee, along with the Bar Association of Erie County, the Women's Bar Association, the Women Lawyers Association and the Lockport Bar Association are sponsoring the 2nd Annual Women in the Law Luncheon. Erie County Court Judge Sheila A. DiTullio, Chairperson of the District's Gender and Racial Fairness Committee is chair of the event.

The luncheon, which will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel on Monday, May 14, 2001, will honor a number of women who have served with distinction in the legal community or work in law related professions.

For more information on those individuals being honored and/or tickets, please contact Harry Brand or Marie Villari at 852-2850 Ext. 114 or Judge DiTullio's chambers at 858-2143. **B**

WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW
 THOMAS E. KRUG
 ATTORNEY AT LAW
 Practice limited to matters before N.Y.S.
 Workers' Compensation Board.

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 SUITE 100, DUN BUILDING
 110 PEARL STREET
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County Court

ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202

SHEILA A. DI TULLIO
COUNTY JUDGE

716-858-2142

January 3, 2001

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
New York State Judicial Committee on Women in Courts
80 Center Street, Room 502
New York, New York 10014

Re: Eighth Judicial District Gender Bias and Racial Fairness Committee

Dear Ms. Goodman:

This is a summary report concerning the Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee's efforts during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October, 2000. As I indicated in our recent telephone conversation, timing is everything, and I found myself rather unexpectedly involved in a State Supreme Court campaign shortly after I received the appointment as the Chairperson of this Committee. Nevertheless, I conducted a meeting with the full committee on September 19, 2000 at which we discussed our plans and priorities for the remainder of the year, which of course included activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

With the kind assistance of Harold Brand (Eighth Judicial District Executive Assistant) and Marie Villari (Senior Management Analyst) we scheduled four programs throughout our District with all supervisory personnel, to discuss the details of the new domestic policy issued by Chief Judge Judith Kaye. As a result of the efforts of Mr. Brand and Ms. Villari, these four meetings were well-attended, successful and informative. Marie and Harry were joined by staff and judges in presenting the policy and training supervisors on its specifics; it was a perfect fit for what I feel our committee should be doing.

Jill Laurie Goodman, Counsel
Re: Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee
Page 2
January 3, 2001

Enclosed please find the memo concerning the four programs we conducted in October, 2000. I am planning a meeting for the full committee on January 11, 2001 concerning activities for the new year. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call. I am new in this position and would appreciate any advice or suggestions you may have.

Most sincerely,



SHEILA A. DiTULLIO
Erie County Court Judge

SAD/kmp
Encl.

c: Justice Vincent E. Doyle (Eighth Judicial District Administrative Judge)
Harold Brand (Eighth Judicial District Executive Assistant)
Marie Villari (Eighth Judicial District Senior Management Analyst)



STATE OF NEW YORK
UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

206 ERIE COUNTY HALL
92 FRANKLIN STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202-3979
(716) 852-2850
FAX (716) 852-3510

JONATHAN LIPPMAN
Chief Administrative Judge

JOSEPH J. TRAFICANTI, JR.
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge
Courts Outside New York City

September 28, 2000

VINCENT E. DOYLE
District Administrative Judge
Eighth Judicial District

HAROLD J. BRAND, JR.
Executive Assistant

MEMORANDUM

TO: CHIEF CLERKS, AGENCY SUPERVISORS
And SECURITY SUPERVISORS
Eighth Judicial District

FROM: HARRY BRAND

RE: UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POLICY -
8th JUDICIAL DISTRICT GENDER & RACIAL FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

The Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee, at a recent meeting, decided that an appropriate focus for its activities would be the recently articulated above captioned policy issued by Chief Judge, Hon. Judith S. Kaye for all employees in the Unified Court System. The Committee is now Chaired by **Hon. Sheila A. DiTullio**, Erie County Court Judge, by appointment of District Administrative Judge, Hon. Vincent E. Doyle.

As you know, October has been designated as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Therefore, the Committee has decided to hold meetings throughout the District in a variety of locations for all supervisory personnel, regardless of grade or title, to include supervisors in security details under contract with the court system.

We are copying all Justices and Judges who are welcome to attend. In the alternative, they may wish to discuss the subject of the meeting with their Chief Clerks.

Wednesday, October 18th

Batavia
Assemble at Surrogate Court
2nd Floor
Genesee County Courts Facility
1 West Main Street

10:00 A.M.

September 28, 2000

Page 2

Wednesday, October 18th	Niagara Falls Report to Family Court; 1 st Floor Civic Bldg. Third Street & Cedar	1:00 P.M.
Thursday, October 19 th	Olean Cattaraugus Family Court 1701 Lincoln Avenue Part 3, Second Floor	9:30 A.M.
	Mayville Gerace Office Building Room 222	12:30 P.M.
Wednesday, October 25 th	Buffalo City Court Conference Rm. Buffalo City Court 50 Delaware Avenue - 7 th Floor	8:30 A.M.

The Niagara Falls and Mayville meetings will include lunch. Accordingly, it is imperative that all Chief Clerks and Agency Supervisors notify Dee or Dawn in the District Administrative Office who will attend those meetings. Coffee will be available at all morning meetings. We expect that the meetings will last approximately 60 to 90 minutes.

Committee and Anti-Discrimination panel members are invited to whichever meetings their schedules permit.

If you have any questions, you may contact the undersigned or Marie Villari.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

HAROLD J. BRAND, JR.

HJB:jn

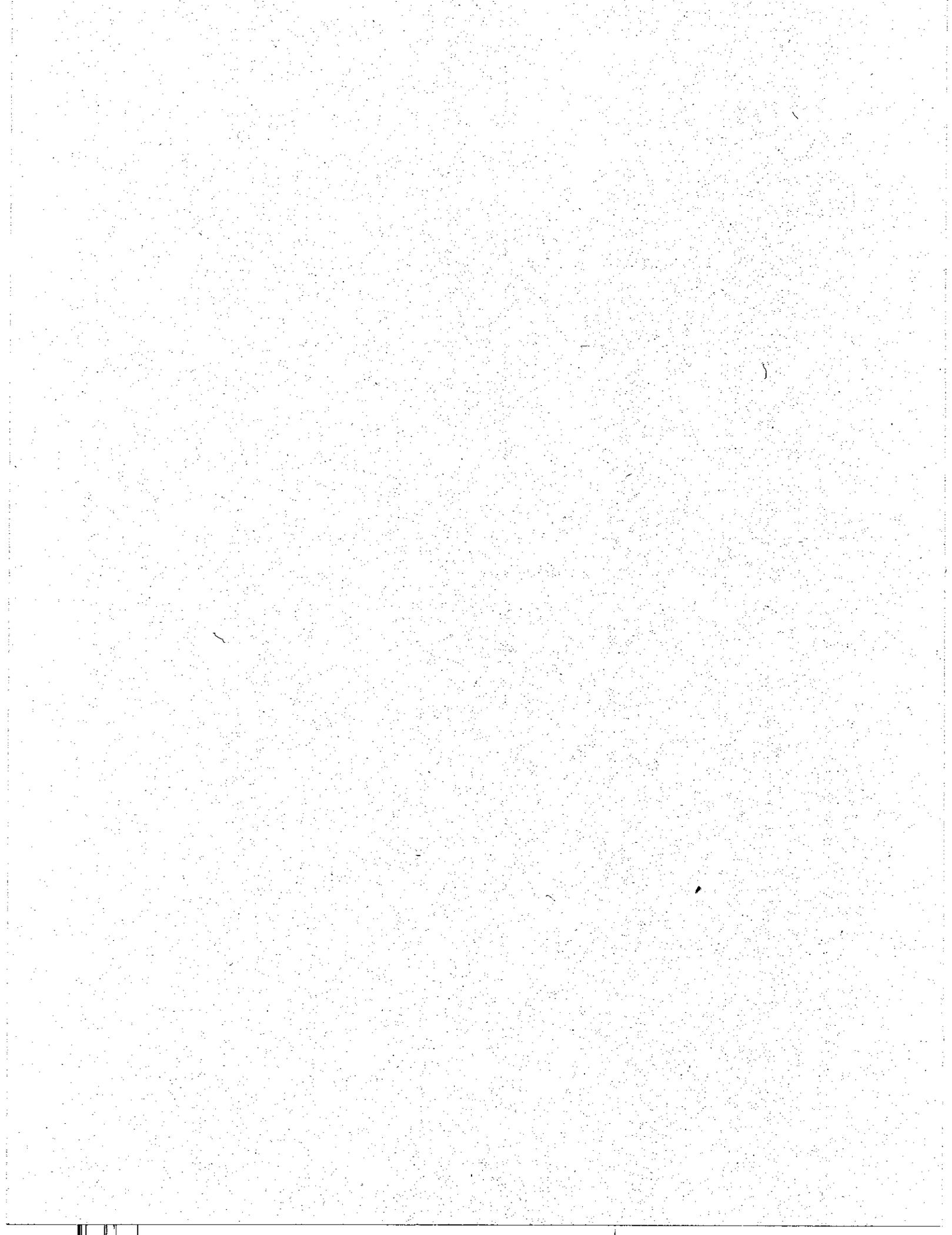
C: Hon. Vincent E. Doyle
Hon. Sheila A. DiTullio
All Justices & Judges
Marie Villari



Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts

Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman
Judge, Court of Claims
140 Grand Street, 9th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601

Telephone: (914) 428-6888
Fax: (914) 428-1306



LOCAL COMMITTEES 2000-2001

Name of the Committee:

Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts

Name, Address and Telephone and Fax Numbers of Chair:

Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, New York State Court of Claims, 140 Grand Street, White Plains, NY 10601, [Telephone] (914) 428-6888, [Fax] 914 428-1306.

Principal Activities in the Past Year:

In October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the committee presented seminars in Rockland and Dutchess Counties entitled "Ethical Issues in the Battered Spouse Case." Judges and representatives from the Pace University School of Law Women's Justice Center spoke and the attorneys in attendance were able to earn CLE credits through Pace. In Westchester County, the committee co-sponsored a program for seniors, "Elder Abuse, Physical and Financial."

In March, Women's History Month, the committee sponsored an essay contest open to high school students in the Ninth Judicial District. The topics suggested by the committee involved gender issues in the schools and the court system. Local bar associations contributed to the cash prizes to be awarded in May in conjunction with Law Day ceremonies.

On March 10, 2001, the committee will co-sponsor a program with the Pace Women's Justice Center, "Ethical Issues in Matrimonial Cases." CLE credit will be available.

During the course of the year, we had various speakers at our committee meetings, including Judge Adrienne Scancarelli discussing the PEACE Program; Julie A. Domonkos, Esq., Executive Director of My Sister's Place, discussing domestic violence issues; and Susan Corcoran, Esq. discussing sexual harassment and e-mail.

Plans for Next Year:

We intend to offer activities in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Women's History Month. We will also attempt to have greater interaction with the local town, village and city court judges in this district.

What is the biggest change in your court or district in the past 15 years, regarding the treatment of women?

Educational programs have sensitized the bench and bar to gender issues.

Court forms and rules have been amended to be gender neutral. Obvious examples of gender bias, such as addressing women attorneys by their first names, are no longer common. Domestic violence is taken seriously and child support issues have moved to the forefront.

What work remains to be done regarding the treatment of women in your court or district?

Educational programs are still necessary to address the more subtle forms of discrimination that exist. Additionally, despite the recognition of the issue, enforcement of child support is still a problem.

Gender Fairness Panel Still Finds Work to Do

Domestic Violence to Remain Primary Focus of Group

BY MARNI HALASA

WHITE PLAINS — Even though the incident occurred 15 years ago, Court of Claims Judge Terry Jane Ruderman will never forget the shock she felt when a Long Island judge told her, then a practicing attorney, that she could sit on a male colleague's lap since the courtroom had run out of seats.

"Now that's a comment that you would never hear today," said Judge Ruderman, who heads the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts.

A focus on domestic violence is crucial, according to Pace Professor Victoria Lutz, because the efforts of gender bias groups haven't really "made a dent" in the landscape of domestic violence. There were 126,812 orders of protection issued in the state in 2000 for battered spouses, up from 114,240 orders of protection in 1996.

The Ninth District panel, a local offshoot of the New York State Committee on Women in the Courts, includes 36 lawyers, judges and court workers who meet each month to discuss issues involving gender bias toward both sexes, particularly in areas such as domestic violence, sexual harassment and how to handle complaints. Most of its 11 male members are district judges.

In the past year, the group has hosted discussions open to the public, co-sponsored legal seminars with groups such as the Pace Women's Justice Center and the Rockland County Women's Bar Association, offered a sexual harassment training program for judges in the district, and sponsored an

Continued on page NS-3



Judge Ruderman

Procedural Route for Sex Bias Complaints

WHITE PLAINS — What happens when a complaint is brought to the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts?

Depending on the nature of a complaint made against a judge, the Committee will refer you either the Inspector General for Bias Matters at the Office of Court Administration or to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct. The current Inspector General, Desiree Kim, is responsible for investigating gender and racial-related discrimination occurring in the court system. The Judicial Commission reviews complaints of misconduct against the nearly 3,300 judges of the State Unified Court System.

The Commission will decide whether to investigate or dismiss a complaint. Nearly 85 percent are dismissed annually because the Commission does not have jurisdiction or the misconduct is not a violation of the state Judiciary Law. If an investigation is authorized, a staff attorney may interview witnesses, examine court records or even ask the judge to respond to the allegations in writing to determine impropriety.

If the situation is deemed more serious, the staff attorney will begin a formal discipli-

Continued on page NS-3

essay contest for high school students to mark Women's History Month.

Members, all volunteers, credited the committee's ambitious agenda to the active support of District Administrative Judge Francis Nicolai and other district judges, as well as to Judge Ruderman's enthusiasm.

"She's not the type to sit still," remarked Dutchess Supreme Court Justice George D. Marlow, also a member of the committee. "She insists we accomplish things, has a number of good ideas and has the ability to set things in motion."

The group is sponsoring a seminar on lawyer ethics in battered spouse cases in March and is planning to celebrate its 15th anniversary on April 4.

In 1984, then Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke appointed the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts to investigate the treatment of women in the state court system. The committee's 1986 report, one of the first in the country, found that female lawyers were "routinely" demeaned and treated patronizingly by male judges and attorneys. The panel also found that some judges did not understand the nature of family violence, blaming the victims for it and that some judges, who did not recognize a wife's contribution to a marriage, distributed property inequitably in divorce settlements.

The study led Chief Judge Cooke's successor, Sol Wachtler, to appoint a Special Inspector General for Bias Matters at the Office of Court Administration.

To address and identify bias concerns locally, the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts released its own finding in 1991 that largely confirmed the conclusions of the statewide report.

The report, which primarily focused on the Westchester County courts, also found that court procedures in matrimonial and custody cases that failed to meet the needs of both male and female litigants, had a greater impact on women as typically the most economically disadvantaged of the parties.

The study spurred a number of reforms such as expeditious case management and orders of protection, directing custody cases to alternative dispute resolution processes, and the preferential disposition of pendente lite relief applications.

Pace Law Professor Jay C. Carlisle, who served on the panels for the 1986 Task Force panel and the 1991 Westchester study, commented, "The bottom line in both of these reports is that people have different perceptions of bias. If you are a white male judge, you typically are going to think that it doesn't exist, while women and especially women of color will say different."

Changing Nature of Bias

Committee members also agreed that the type of gender discrimination has changed over the years. Justice Marlow said that the particularly blatant instances of gender bias have given way to quieter forms of discrimination — such as the unspoken attitude of judges, lawyers and litigants in matrimonial disputes that women should unquestionably be regarded as the primary caregiver of children and aging parents.

"You're not going to see a judge ask a pregnant woman who was kicked in the groin what it was that she did that caused her husband to beat her — which was my experience as a young prosecutor in 1967," he recalled. "But you will see an unspoken expectation that women should adhere to a certain role in life."

Another important change, noted Professor Carlisle, is how gender bias now appears to be occurring primarily among lawyers, rather than judges. He noted a recent federal study reporting that 54 percent of white male attorneys, 77 percent of white female attorneys, 79 percent of minority male attorneys and 80 percent of minority female attorneys reported observing biased treatment of other lawyers based on gender.

"To my knowledge, there's been a lot more progress in the state courts than in the federal courts in terms of addressing bias," he said.

Agenda for Future

Second Department Appellate Division Justice Sondra Miller said she believes that the committee's consistent attempt at educating a variety of legal and non-legal groups has made a difference.

"Few people now will shrug off a domestic violence complaint," said Justice Miller, who chaired the committee from 1990 to 1998 and now heads the New York State Family Violence Task Force.

Judge Ruderman said the Ninth District committee will continue its primary focus on domestic violence, although the committee will also address sexual harassment and the general treatment of women in the courts. Such a focus on domestic violence is crucial, according to Pace Professor Victoria Lutz, because the efforts of gender bias groups haven't really "made a dent" in the landscape of domestic violence. According to the New York State Domestic Violence Family Protection Registry in Albany, there were 126,812 orders of protection issued in the state in 2000 for battered spouses, up from 114,240 orders of protection in 1996.

Justices Miller and Marlow said they would like to see the committee target town and village justices for enhanced sensitivity training since many, as non-lawyers, have not been exposed to gender bias education.

Procedure

Continued from page NS-1

nary proceeding. The Commission appoints a referee to conduct a formal hearing to report findings of fact and conclusions of law.

After the Commission receives the referee's report, it deliberates in executive session to determine whether a judge should be admonished, censured, removed or retired. A written decision is forwarded to the Chief Judge, who then serves it on the judge. When service is completed, the record of the proceedings becomes public.

The Commission does not have jurisdiction over federal judges, administrative law judges and New York City Housing Court judges.

If the complaint is against an attorney, the Gender Fairness Committee will refer the individual to the Appellate Division, Second Department's Grievance Committee for the Ninth Judicial District, which investigates complaints against lawyers.

Like the Commission, the grievance committee dismisses most complaints as they often involve such as fee disputes and not a violation of the Code of Professional Responsibility.

If the committee has jurisdiction, it forwards the complaint to the lawyer for a written response. After a staff attorney reviews the answer, the attorney may request further information or subpoena the lawyer to produce the information. At this stage, the attorney may be summoned to the offices of the grievance committee for an official interview.

On completion of the investigation, staff counsel may submit the matter to a full committee for dismissal, a letter of caution, or a private sanction based on a minor code violation. The staff attorney may also recommend formal disciplinary proceedings before a subcommittee or in the Appellate Division if there is evidence of serious misconduct.

Complaints against court personnel would be referred to the office of the Inspector General for the Office of Court Administration.

—Marni Halasa

Gender Fairness in the Courts Committee Sponsors Essay Contest



Four of the six winners (left to right) **Connie Lu**, **Jessica Smith**, **Debbie Lisewski** and **Kelly Whitford**, all from John Jay H.S. in Hopewell Junction, Dutchess County. (Not in photo) **Judi Byrne** of Walter Panas H.S. in Cortlandt, Westchester County and **Jolene Swart** of Arlington H.S., LaGrangeville, Dutchess County.

In March, to honor Women's History Month, the Ninth Judicial District's **Gender Fairness in the Courts Committee**, chaired by Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman (Court of Claims), sponsored an essay contest.

High School students from throughout the district were invited to submit entries of approximately 500 words from the following list of questions:

What will the family be like in twenty-five years?

Describe a television sit-com involving family life or social relationships twenty-five years from now.

What do you think the roll of men and women in our society will be in twenty-five years?

What will the "ideal" family be in twenty-five years and how will it differ from today's families?

What do you think the three most significant forces shaping the family will be in the next twenty-five years?

Continued on page 8

The funds for the prizes were donated by the following: Columbian Lawyers Association of Westchester County, the Orange County Bar Association, the Rockland County Bar Association, the Westchester Women's Bar Association, the White Plains Bar Association and the Yorktown Bar Association.

Some thoughts from the winners . . .

Judith Byrne – "I'm a freshman honor student from Waller Panas. My favorite subject is Biology. I'm the goalie for our varsity soccer team and in the fall, I'll be playing field hockey. I entered the contest with the rest of my class and it was a wonderful surprise that I won."

Debbie Lisewski – "I'm seventeen years old and a junior at John Jay H.S. in Hopewell Junction. I play softball and am involved in working on the yearbook as well as community service projects. I'm an active member of my church youth group. As I start my college search, I want to major in Elementary Education."

Jessica Tara Smith – "I'm a junior at John Jay H.S. I heard about the contest from my English teacher, Mrs. D'Amato, who encouraged my fellow students and I to enter the contest promoting gender fairness in the courts. I have always loved to write. The essay I wrote for the contest was about how society will change in the next twenty-five years. My prediction is that women will finally be the dominant force in all areas of the planet's social life."



Recipients being congratulated by Judge Ruderman and given their awards at Dutchess County Bar Association Luncheon on May 1, Law Day.

**The Ninth Judicial District
Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts
and
The Rockland County Women's Bar Association
and
The Pace Women's Justice Center**

Present

Ethical Issues in the Battered Spouse Case

- DATE:** October 3, 2000
- TIME:** 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- PLACE:** Suffern Library
210 Lafayette Avenue
Suffern, NY 10901
- SPEAKERS:** The Hon. George D. Marlow
The Hon. William P. Warren
Victoria L. Lutz, Esq.

Two hours of CLE ethics credit will be offered for the segments between 5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.

The cost of this program is \$25.00.

For more information call Maureen A. Moran, Esq., at (914) 634 6126.

*Full or partial scholarships are available to all attorneys working in government or not-for-profit organizations.
Special payment or fee waiver arrangements are available for unemployed attorneys.*

**The Ninth Judicial District
Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts
and
The Pace Women's Justice Center**

Present

Ethical Issues in the Battered Spouse Case

- DATE:** October 10, 2000
- TIME:** 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Town of Fishkill Town Hall
807 Route 52
Fishkill, New York 12524
- SPEAKERS:** The Hon. George D. Marlow
Victoria L. Lutz, Esq.

*Light refreshments will be served. This program will result in two hours of CLE ethics credit.
The cost of the program is \$25.00.
For more information call Maureen A. Moran, Esq., at (914) 634 6126.*

*Full or partial scholarships are available to all attorneys working in government or not-for-profit organizations.
Special payment or fee waiver arrangements are available for unemployed attorneys.*

**The Pace University School of Law
Center for Continuing Legal Education
and
The Ninth Judicial District
Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts
and
The Pace Women's Justice Center**

Present

Ethical Issues in the Battered Spouse Case

DATE: March 10, 2001

TIME: 8:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Moot Court Room, Glass Law Center Building
Pace University School of Law
78 North Broadway
White Plains, NY 10603

SPEAKERS: Victoria L. Lutz, Esq.
Audrey E. Stone, Esq.

*Four hours of CLE ethics credit will be offered. The cost of this program is \$170.00.
The cost of this program for Pace Alumni, WWBA, WCBA, WCBLA & WPBA members
is \$145.00. For more information and to RSVP please call Sasha Stewart at (914) 422-4062.*

This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 4 credit hours, which credit hours can be applied toward the ethics requirement. The course is sponsored by the Pace University School of Law Center for Continuing Legal Education.

Full and partial scholarships for this program based on financial need are available. For information on the guidelines, and to apply, please contact Sasha Stewart. All requests are confidential. This program is suitable for transitional (i.e., newly admitted) and non-transitional attorneys.



*Court of Claims
State of New York*

*Terry Jane Ruderman
Judge*

*Chambers
140 Grand Street, Suite 910
White Plains, New York 10601
914-428-6888*

MEMORANDUM

To: Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Chair, New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

From: Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman *TJR*
Chair, Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts

Date: November 9, 2000

Re: Domestic Violence Month Programs
Women's History Month

Domestic Violence Awareness Month:

On October 2, 2000, we participated in Senior Day in Westchester County. The day's events, directed to the elder population, were planned by the County of Westchester Department of Aging and the Ninth Judicial District. Our committee provided speakers covering the topics "Elder Abuse: Physical and Financial."

On October 3, 2000, we co-sponsored a CLE Program in Rockland County entitled "Ethical Issues in the Battered Spouse Case." CLE credits were offered to attorneys who attended the program. I have enclosed the flyer and a newspaper article relating to the event.

On October 10, 2000, we presented a similar CLE Program in Dutchess County. While the topic was the same, we varied the panel to include local speakers. I have enclosed the flyer for this event as well.

Women's History Month:

We are again planning to sponsor an essay contest for high school students. Using the lessons learned from last year's contest, we anticipate even greater success this year.

Local lawyers focus on domestic violence

Program examines shifting moral issues in abuse cases

Alan Zeitlin

Special to The Journal News

Domestic violence can alter lives in many ways, ranging from enduring physical harm and emotional damage to navigating the complexities of the legal system. Last night, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, more than 20 county lawyers met at the Suffern Library to discuss ethical issues in cases of domestic violence and abuse.

The second-year program, sponsored by the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts, the Rockland County Women's Bar Association, and the Pace Women's Justice Center focused on the changes that have taken place over the years and how, in turn, lawyers are adapting to the needs of their clients.

"I think things are much different now than they were 20 years ago," said Victoria A. Lutz, executive director of the Pace Women's Justice Center. "Today, accusations are taken more seriously, and there is more of a public awareness. But the struggle a battered woman has is the same when she looks in the mirror and says 'Did I make the worst mistake of my life when I married this person?'"

Lutz, Ninth District Supreme Court Justice George D. Marlow and Rockland Family Court Justice William Warren comprised the panel leading the discussion involving hypothetical cases, some of which explicitly described domestic abuse. But not all cases of domestic violence are obvious, noted Warren, who added that even warnings may deter an abuser from subsequent attempts of abuse.

"A perpetrator of domestic violence is consumed with having control," Warren said. "He doesn't want to get caught and may be clever in disguising the abuse. He doesn't want to see police. He doesn't want to come and see me or people he doesn't have control

over." Warren said that this year, he saw 1,000 petitions for domestic violence in the county, about the same as last year.

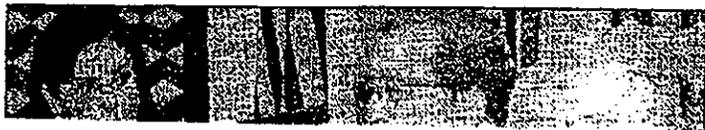
Deborah Sheehan, a family law attorney in Nyack, said people need to remember that men are also victims of domestic violence. While the number of cases involving men as victims are in the great minority, the cases represent victims in a difficult situation. "It's embarrassing for men to say that they were hit by a woman," Sheehan said. "It's not macho, and a man is reluctant to file charges. Also, it's often a race to see who files first, and if the man is second, his claim may not be taken seriously."

A large portion of the discussion involved a hypothetical case where two clients of the attorney had conflicting interests. A 15-year-old daughter said she was sexually abused by her father and wanted no contact with him. Her teen-age brother said that the father should get treatment, but he still wanted to live with him. The question posed was whether an attorney could effectively represent both clients.

While two audience members said it might be possible to represent both children, Marlow warned the lawyers not to become too involved in their cases to see a clear conflict of interest.

"A lot of attorneys care so much and say, 'I can do this,'" he said. "Sometimes, lawyers need to take a step back and say, 'If I drop dead right now, somebody else could do this.' Watch out, because you may be getting your own ego wrapped up."

Warren said he, other justices and police were shocked at last month's case in which authorities ruled that Suffern resident Martin Racenstein beat his wife, Harriet, to death with a claw hammer before killing himself. Police have had difficulty discovering a motive. "While the wife clearly died as a result of domestic violence, there was no evidence to suggest that there was a history of domestic violence and we will probably never know," Warren said. "It's very odd that neighbors, relatives and friends all said there were no signs of a problem between them."





Vincent DiSalvio/The Journal News

Victoria Lutz, executive director of the Pace Women's Justice Center, George Marlow, center, a state Supreme Court Justice, and Rockland Family Court Justice William Warren posed real-life questions yesterday during a program on domestic violence.

The Ninth Judicial District
Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts
and
The Rockland County Women's Bar Association
and
The Pace Women's Justice Center

Present

Ethical Issues in the Battered Spouse Case

DATE: October 3, 2000

TIME: 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

PLACE: Suffern Library
210 Lafayette Avenue
Suffern, NY 10901

SPEAKERS: The Hon. George D. Marlow
The Hon. William P. Warren
Victoria L. Lutz, Esq.

Two hours of CLE ethics credit will be offered for the segments between 5:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. Dinner will be provided from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The cost of this program is \$25.00.

For more information and to RSVP please call Maureen A. Moran, Esq., at (914) 634 6126. by September 26, 2000.

This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 2 credit hours, which credit hours can be applied toward the ethics requirement. The course is sponsored for CLE accreditation by the Rockland chapter of WBASNY.

Full and partial scholarships for this program based on financial need are available. For information on the guidelines, and to apply, please contact Maureen A. Moran. All requests are confidential. This program is suitable for transitional (i.e., newly admitted) and non-transitional attorneys.

**The Ninth Judicial District
Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts
and
The Pace Women's Justice Center**

Present

Ethical Issues in the Battered Spouse Case

- DATE:** **October 10, 2000**
- TIME:** **5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**
- PLACE:** **Town of Fishkill Town Hall
807 Route 52
Fishkill, New York 12524**
- SPEAKERS:** **The Hon. George D. Marlow
The Hon. John W. Sweeny, Jr.
Victoria L. Lutz, Esq.**

*Light refreshments will be served. This program will result in two hours of CLE ethics credit. The cost of the program is \$25.00.
For more information and to RSVP please call Maureen A. Moran, Esq., at (914) 634 6126, by October 3, 2000.*

This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 2 credit hours, which credit hours can be applied toward the ethics requirement. The course is sponsored for CLE accreditation by the Rockland chapter of WBASNY.

Full and partial scholarships for this program based on financial need are available. For information on the guidelines, and to apply, please contact Maureen A. Moran. All requests are confidential. This program is suitable for transitional (i.e., newly admitted) and non-transitional attorneys.

Gender Fairness Panel Still Finds Work to Do

Domestic Violence to Remain Primary Focus of Group

BY MARNI HALASA

WHITE PLAINS — Even though the incident occurred 15 years ago, Court of Claims Judge Terry Jane Ruderman will never forget the shock she felt when a Long Island judge told her, then a practicing attorney, that she could sit on a male colleague's lap since the courtroom had run out of seats.

"Now that's a comment that you would never hear today," said Judge Ruderman, who heads the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts.

A focus on domestic violence is crucial, according to Pace Professor Victoria Lutz, because the efforts of gender bias groups haven't really "made a dent" in the landscape of domestic violence. There were 126,812 orders of protection issued in the state in 2000 for battered spouses, up from 114,240 orders of protection in 1996.

The Ninth District panel, a local offshoot of the New York State Committee on Women in the Courts, includes 36 lawyers, judges and court workers who meet each month to discuss issues involving gender bias toward both sexes, particularly in areas such as domestic violence, sexual harassment and how to handle complaints. Most of its 11 male members are district judges.

In the past year, the group has hosted discussions open to the public, co-sponsored legal seminars with groups such as the Pace Women's Justice Center and the Rockland County Women's Bar Association, offered a sexual harassment training program for judges in the district, and sponsored an



Judge Ruderman

Continued on page NS-3

Procedural Route for Sex Bias Complaints

WHITE PLAINS — What happens when a complaint is brought to the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts?

Depending on the nature of a complaint made against a judge, the Committee will refer you either the Inspector General for Bias Matters at the Office of Court Administration or to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct. The current Inspector General, Desiree Kim, is responsible for investigating gender and racial-related discrimination occurring in the court system. The Judicial Commission reviews complaints of misconduct against the nearly 3,300 judges of the State Unified Court System.

The Commission will decide whether to investigate or dismiss a complaint. Nearly 85 percent are dismissed annually because the Commission does not have jurisdiction or the misconduct is not a violation of the state Judiciary Law. If an investigation is authorized, a staff attorney may interview witnesses, examine court records or even ask the judge to respond to the allegations in writing to determine impropriety.

If the situation is deemed more serious, the staff attorney will begin a formal discipli-

Continued on page NS-3

essay contest for high school students to mark Women's History Month.

Members, all volunteers, credited the committee's ambitious agenda to the active support of District Administrative Judge Francis Nicolai and other district judges, as well as to Judge Ruderman's enthusiasm.

"She's not the type to sit still," remarked Dutchess Supreme Court Justice George D. Marlow, also a member of the committee. "She insists we accomplish things, has a number of good ideas and has the ability to set things in motion."

The group is sponsoring a seminar on lawyer ethics in battered spouse cases in March and is planning to celebrate its 15th anniversary on April 4.

In 1984, then Chief Judge Lawrence H. Cooke appointed the New York Task Force on Women in the Courts to investigate the treatment of women in the state court system. The committee's 1986 report, one of the first in the country, found that female lawyers were "routinely" demeaned and treated patronizingly by male judges and attorneys. The panel also found that some judges did not understand the nature of family violence, blaming the victims for it and that some judges, who did not recognize a wife's contribution to a marriage, distributed property inequitably in divorce settlements.

The study led Chief Judge Cooke's successor, Sol Wachtler, to appoint a Special Inspector General for Bias Matters at the Office of Court Administration.

To address and identify bias concerns locally, the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts released its own finding in 1991 that largely confirmed the conclusions of the statewide report.

The report, which primarily focused on the Westchester County courts, also found that court procedures in matrimonial and custody cases that failed to meet the needs of both male and female litigants, had a greater impact on women as typically the most economically disadvantaged of the parties.

The study spurred a number of reforms such as expeditious case management and orders of protection, directing custody cases to alternative dispute resolution processes, and the preferential disposition of pendente lite relief applications.

Pace Law Professor Jay C. Carlisle, who served on the panels for the 1986 Task Force panel and the 1991 Westchester study, commented, "The bottom line in both of these reports is that people have different perceptions of bias. If you are a white male judge, you typically are going to think that it doesn't exist, while women and especially women of color will say different."

Changing Nature of Bias

Committee members also agreed that the type of gender discrimination has changed over the years. Justice Marlow said that the particularly blatant instances of gender bias have given way to quieter forms of discrimination — such as the unspoken attitude of judges, lawyers and litigants in matrimonial disputes that women should unquestionably be regarded as the primary caregiver of children and aging parents.

"You're not going to see a judge ask a pregnant woman who was kicked in the groin what it was that she did that caused her husband to beat her — which was my experience as a young prosecutor in 1967," he recalled. "But you will see an unspoken expectation that women should adhere to a certain role in life."

Another important change, noted Professor Carlisle, is how gender bias now appears to be occurring primarily among lawyers, rather than judges. He noted a recent federal study reporting that 54 percent of white male attorneys, 77 percent of white female attorneys, 79 percent of minority male attorneys and 80 percent of minority female attorneys reported observing biased treatment of other lawyers based on gender.

"To my knowledge, there's been a lot more progress in the state courts than in the federal courts in terms of addressing bias," he said.

Agenda for Future

Second Department Appellate Division Justice Sondra Miller said she believes that the committee's consistent attempt at educating a variety of legal and non-legal groups has made a difference.

"Few people now will shrug off a domestic violence complaint," said Justice Miller, who chaired the committee from 1990 to 1998 and now heads the New York State Family Violence Task Force.

Judge Ruderman said the Ninth District committee will continue its primary focus on domestic violence, although the committee will also address sexual harassment and the general treatment of women in the courts. Such a focus on domestic violence is crucial, according to Pace Professor Victoria Lutz, because the efforts of gender bias groups haven't really "made a dent" in the landscape of domestic violence. According to the New York State Domestic Violence Family Protection Registry in Albany, there were 126,812 orders of protection issued in the state in 2000 for battered spouses, up from 114,240 orders of protection in 1996.

Justices Miller and Marlow said they would like to see the committee target town and village justices for enhanced sensitivity training since many, as non-lawyers, have not been exposed to gender bias education.

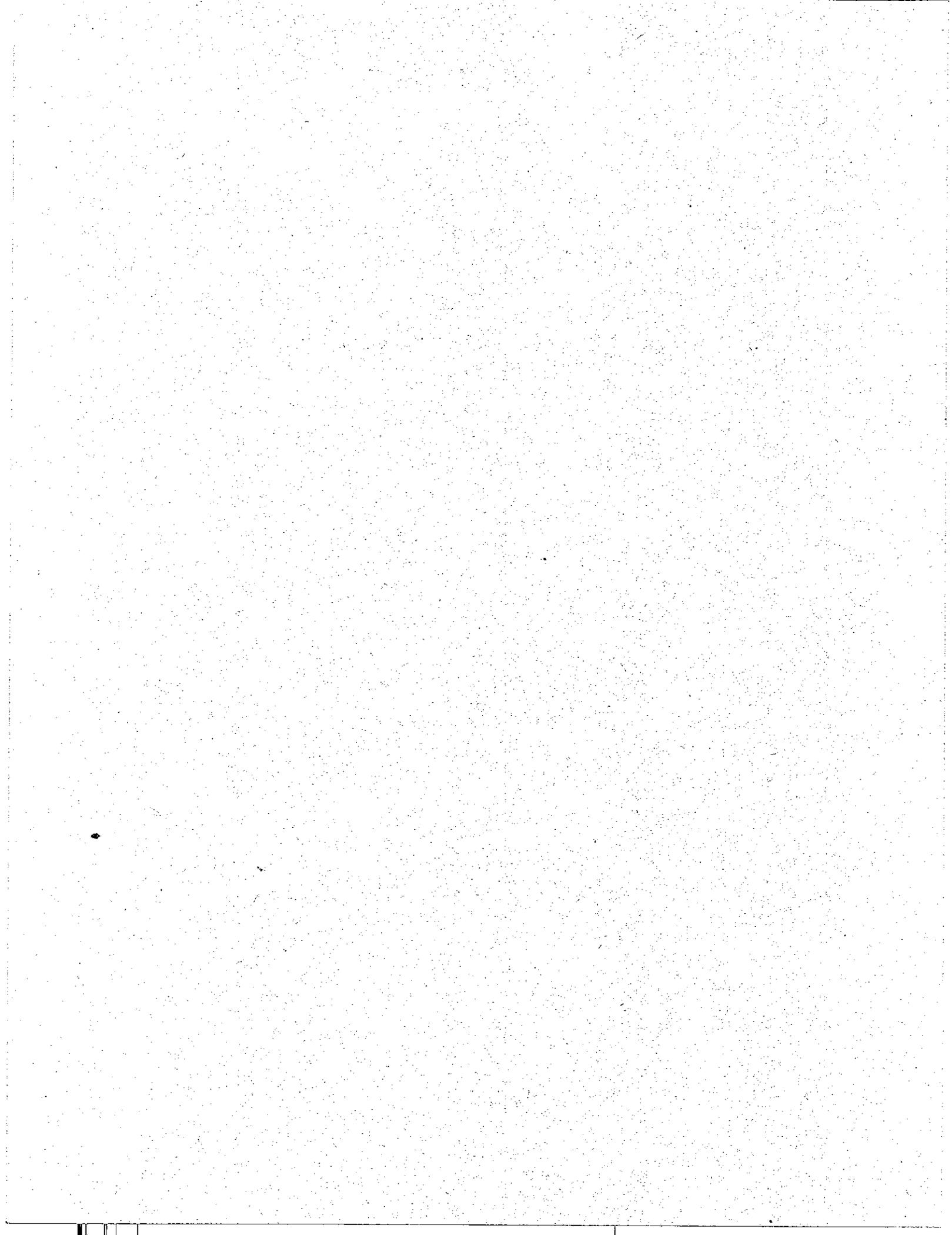
Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

Hon. Claire Weinberg
County Court Judge
99 Main Street
Hempstead, NY 11550

Telephone: 516-572-2111
Fax: 516-572-2371

Hon. Denise Sher,
Chair Emeritus
285 Bayberry Road
Hewlett Harbor, NY 11557

Telephone: (516) 569-8770





CHAMBERS OF THE COUNTY COURT
COUNTY OF NASSAU

CLAIRE I. WEINBERG
COUNTY JUDGE

99 MAIN STREET
HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK 11550
TELEPHONE (516) 572-2111

May 10, 2001

Honorable Betty W. Ellerin
Associate Justice
Appellate Division, 1st Dept.
New York County, First District
27 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10010

Dear Betty:

I am happy to be aboard, and I am willing to help in whatever way I can.

I thought you would be interested in what we did for Women's History Month.

Sincerely,

Hon. Claire I. Weinberg

CIW/ll
encs.

NASSAU COUNTY JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS

TO: HON. BETTY WEINBERG ELLERIN

FROM: HON. CLAIRE I. WEINBERG
NASSAU COUNTY JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS

DATE: May 10, 2001

SUBJECT: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2001

The Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, Hon. Edward G. McCabe, Administrative Judge, celebrated Women's History Month on March 29, 2001 by honoring two judicial pioneers.

The Committee chaired by the Hon. Claire I. Weinberg, hosted a light lunch in the Supreme Court at which the Hon. Edward McCabe, Alice Chapman, Director of Workforce Diversity, Unified Court System and M. Kathryn Meng, President of the Nassau County Bar Association made remarks on the significance of the event.

The Hon. Edwin J. Loewy then paid tribute to the Hon. Elizabeth Bass Golding and the Hon. Pauline Balkin paid tribute to the Hon. Beatrice S. Burstein. Justice Burstein and Judge Golding, both recently deceased, were among the first women to serve on the Judiciary in Nassau County.

The program was very moving and well received.

Special thanks to Kathryn D. Hopkins, Principal Law Assistant to Justice McCabe, Daniel Bagnuola and Susan J. Sharp for their help in making this program a success.

CIW:ll

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Claire I. Weinberg". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.

**NASSAU COUNTY JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS**

**Celebrate Women's History Month
By Honoring Two Judicial Pioneers**

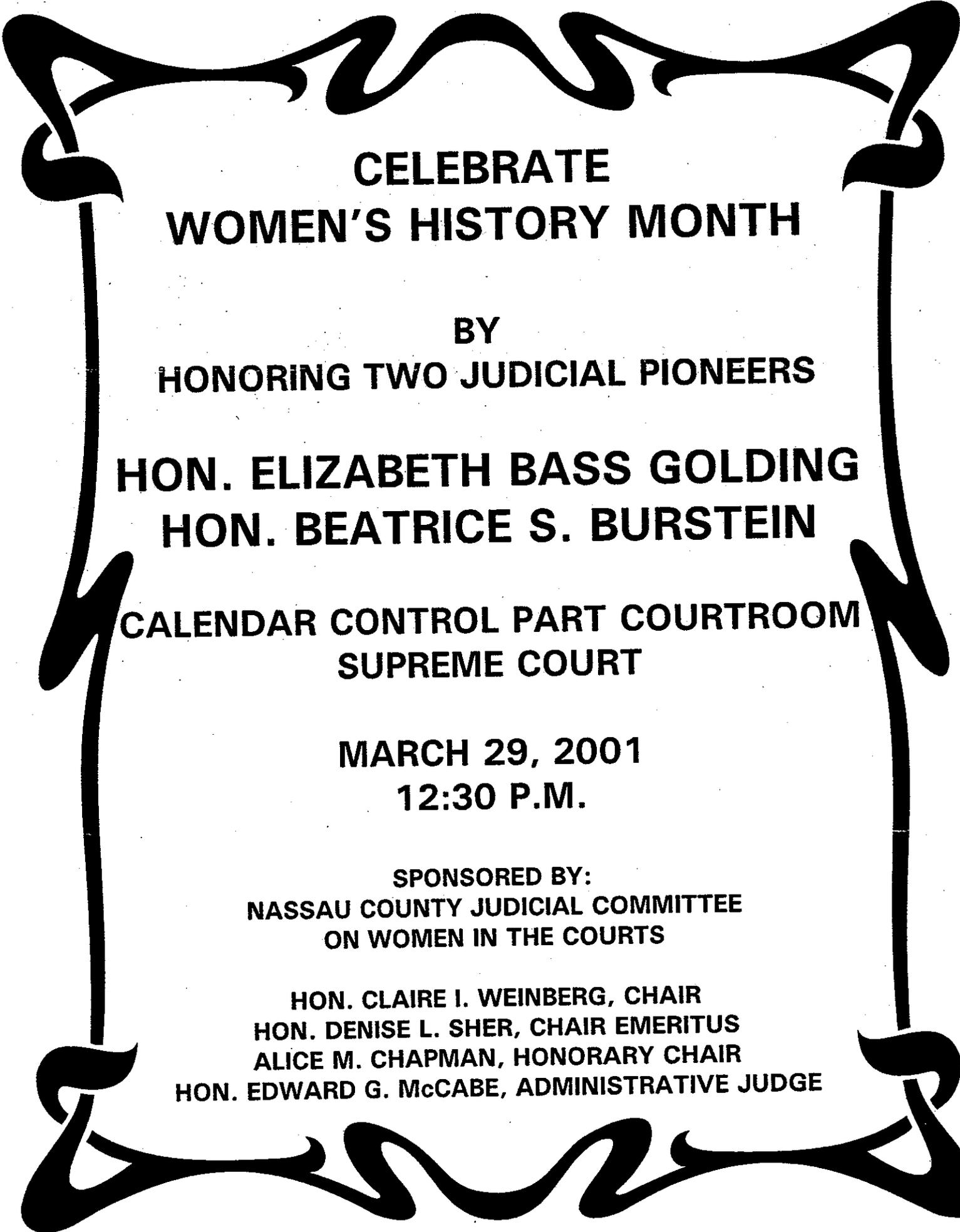
**Hon. Elizabeth Bass Golding
Hon. Beatrice S. Burstein**

**Hon. Edward G. McCabe
Administrative Judge of Nassau County**

**Nassau County Supreme Court
Thursday, March 29, 2001
12:30 P.M.**

**Presiding Justice
Hon. Edward G. McCabe**

Welcome:	Hon. Claire I. Weinberg Chair Judge of the County Court
Remarks:	Hon. Edward G. McCabe Administrative Judge Nassau County
Remarks:	Alice M. Chapman Honorary Chair Director Workforce Diversity Unified Court System
Remarks:	M. Kathryn Meng, Esq. President, Nassau County Bar Association
Tribute to Hon. Elizabeth Bass Golding:	Hon. Edwin J. Loewy Judicial Hearing Officer
Tribute to Hon. Beatrice S. Burstein:	Hon. Pauline Balkin Judge of the Family Court, ret.
Closing Remarks:	Hon. Denise L. Sher Chair Emeritus



**CELEBRATE
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

**BY
HONORING TWO JUDICIAL PIONEERS**

**HON. ELIZABETH BASS GOLDING
HON. BEATRICE S. BURSTEIN**

**CALENDAR CONTROL PART COURTROOM
SUPREME COURT**

**MARCH 29, 2001
12:30 P.M.**

**SPONSORED BY:
NASSAU COUNTY JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS**

**HON. CLAIRE I. WEINBERG, CHAIR
HON. DENISE L. SHER, CHAIR EMERITUS
ALICE M. CHAPMAN, HONORARY CHAIR
HON. EDWARD G. McCABE, ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE**

NASSAU COUNTY JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS

TO: HON. BETTY WEINBERG ELLERIN

FROM: HON. DENISE L. SHER
NASSAU COUNTY JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS

DATE: NOVEMBER 17, 2000

SUBJECT: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH REPORTS, WOMEN'S MONTH, AND 15TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, Hon. Edward G. McCabe, Administrative Judge, ushered in "Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2000" with an innovative Internet program. In cooperation with local colleges, a discussion group and chat board did address the topic of "Dating Violence: What you need to Know."

The Committee, chaired by the Hon. Denise L. Sher, provided the opportunity for students to ask, anonymously if they wish, questions ranging from what type of conduct signal trouble in a relationship to information about date rape and other abusive behavior. A website had been set up to accept comments beginning September 15, 2000. It did also provide information and links to other related sites.

The live Internet program took place on Monday, October 2, 2000, "National Work to End Domestic Violence Day", from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. A computer screen was set up at the Nassau County Supreme Court, where a panel of experts on the topic was available to respond directly to e-mail inquiries and address comments previously sent to the chat board by students. Answers to chat board inquires were available online until October 20, 2000.

The program was highly successful. In addition, tables of literature on Domestic Violence were set up for the month of October with individuals stationed in every courthouse in Nassau County.

DLS:ju

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise L. Sher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "S".

**DATING VIOLENCE
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

**LIVE INTERNET PROGRAM
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2000
12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.
CALENDAR CONTROL PART COURTROOM
SUPREME COURT - 1ST FLOOR**

ALL WELCOME!!!!!!

SPONSORED BY:

**NASSAU COUNTY JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON
WOMEN IN THE COURTS**

HON. DENISE L. SHER, CHAIR

"NATIONAL WORK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DAY"

Supreme Court
of the
State of New York



SHERI S. ROMAN
JUSTICE

CHAMBERS
125-01 QUEENS BLVD.
KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11415

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin, Chairperson
New York State Judicial Committee
on Women in the Courts

FROM: Hon. Sheri S. Roman, Chairperson 
Queens County Supreme Court
Gender Fairness Committee

DATE: November 13, 2000

RE: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Programs

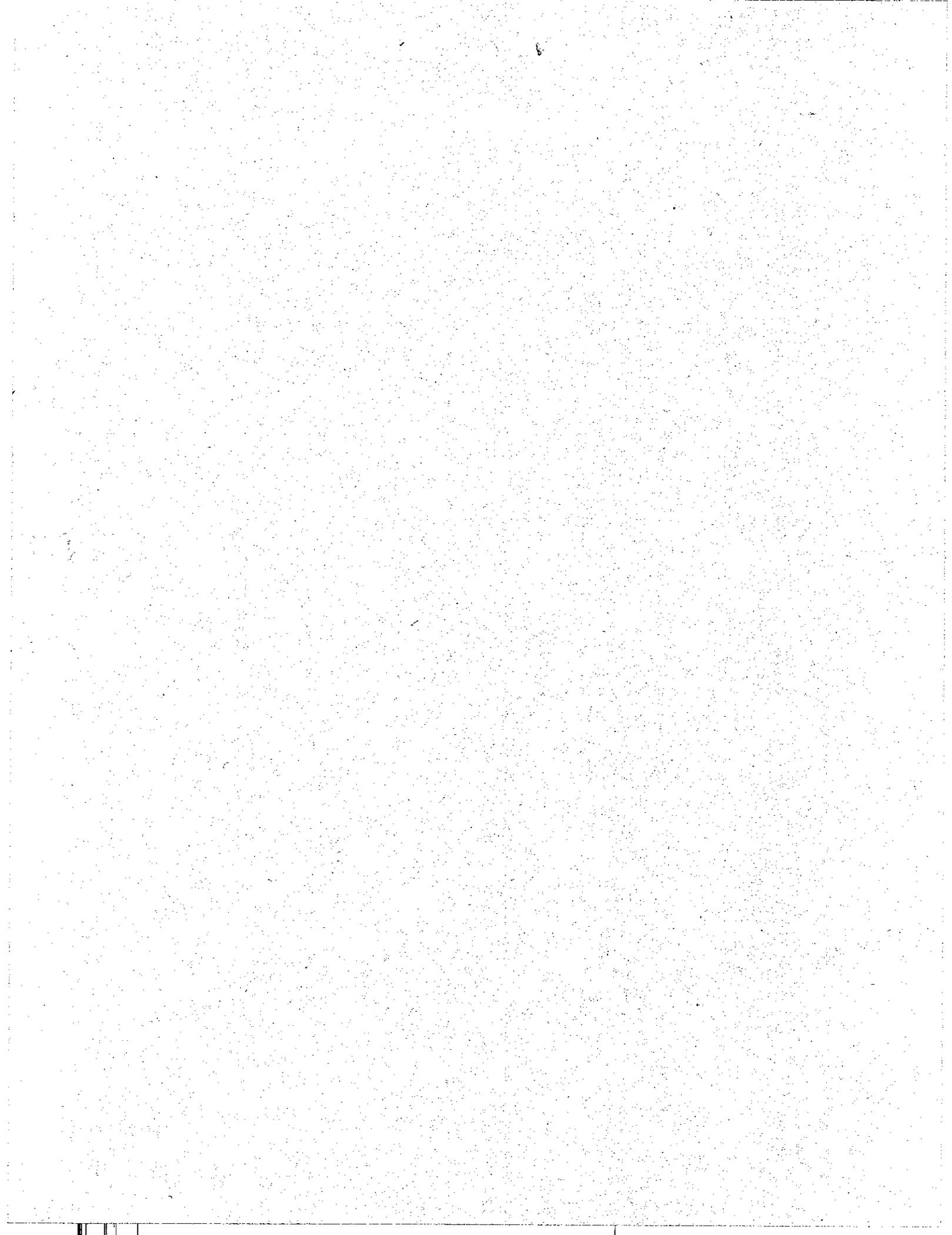
Queens County presented three luncheon programs to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Two sessions were conducted in the Kew Gardens Courthouse and the other at the Jamaica Courthouse. On Monday, October 16, 2000, and Monday, October 23, 2000, the program was held in the Kew Gardens Courtroom 190. On Tuesday, October 17th, the program was held in Jamaica's Boardroom. Robert K. Passonno, Domestic Violence Program Administrator for the State of New York Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, was the guest speaker for these sessions. He addressed issues generated by the 1997 "Primary Physical Aggressor Law."

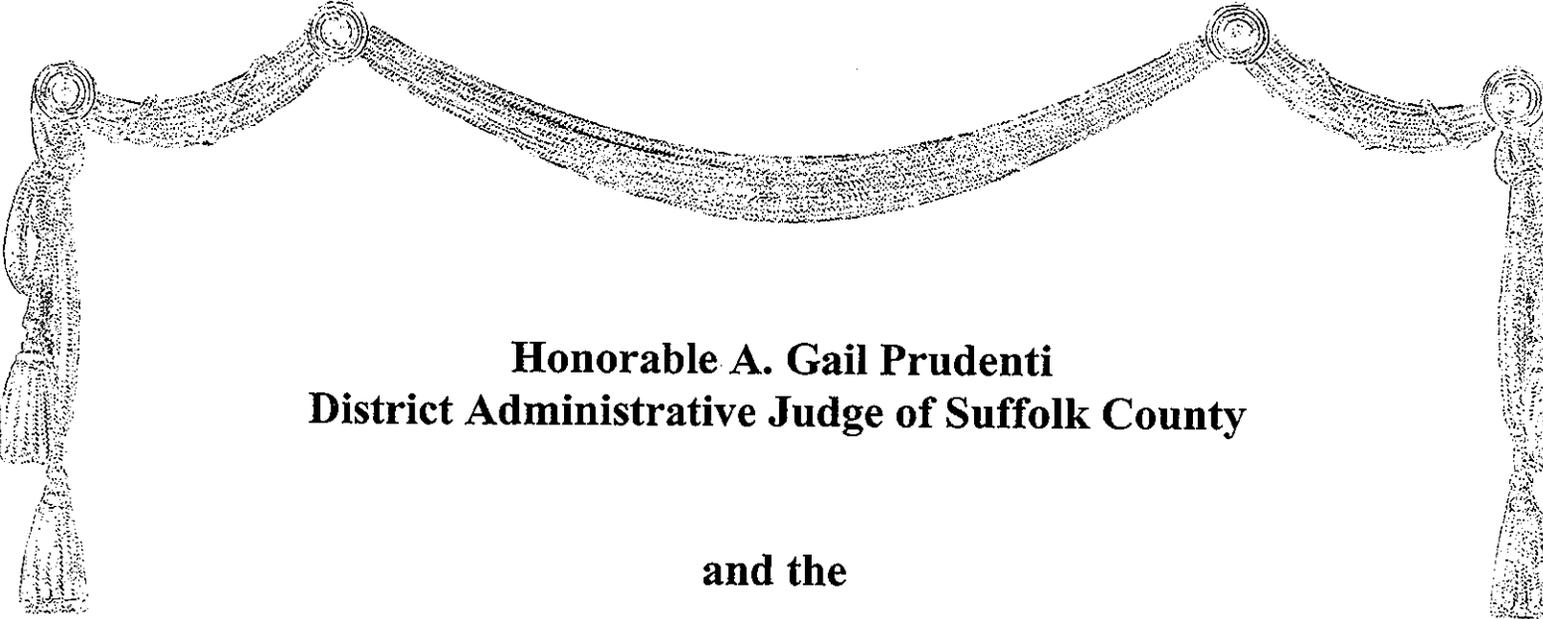
Victoria Lutz, Esq., Executive Director of the Pace University School of Law's Women's Justice Center, was the guest speaker at our October 23rd presentation. This session focused on the nature of "stalking" and the recent New York Stalking Legislation. Pace University School of Law awarded Continuing Legal Education

Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee

Cheryl Zimmer, Esq.
c/o Justice H. Patrick Leis
400 Carelton Ave.
Central Islip, NY 11722

Telephone: (631) 853-7735





**Honorable A. Gail Prudenti
District Administrative Judge of Suffolk County**

and the

Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee

cordially invite you to a reception

in honor of

National Women's History Month

to be held on

March 1, 2001 at 3:00 p.m.

**Please join us on the Second Floor Mezzanine of the Cohalan Court
Complex to view the Historical Time Line and Pictorial Display of
Suffolk County Women Judges**

Refreshments will be served

RSVP to Cathy Petersen at 853-5368 by February 26, 2001

THE SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

Cordially invites you to the

**SECOND ANNUAL
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION**

featuring distinguished author and gifted speaker

KAREN GROSS
PROFESSOR AT NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL
Author of *FAILURE & FORGIVENESS* and forthcoming book
LADIES IN RED

***A LOOK AT OUR NATION'S FIRST WOMAN DEBTOR:
REBUTTING MYTHS ABOUT WOMEN, MONEY & POWER***

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2001
6 P.M.

DUO RESTAURANT
661 OLD WILLETS PATH
HAUPPAUGE, NEW YORK
\$35.00 INCLUDES DINNER
"cash bar"

Please RSVP by March 20, 2001
Reserve early for this exciting event

(631) 421-2244 Ext. 415
Last year was a sell out!

Make checks payable to the SCWBA
and mail to SCWBA, Touro Law Center, 300 Nassau Road, Huntington, New York 11743

After Dinner, Karen Gross will be available to sign
paperback copies of her award winning book
Failure and Forgiveness



Suffolk County Women's Bar Association

Touro Law Center
300 Nassau Road
Huntington, New York 11743



JOIN US ON MARCH 28, 2001
to celebrate *Women's History Month*
and hear *Distinguished Speaker*
and *Award Winning Author*
Professor **KAREN GROSS**

Directions to DUO:

LIE going West: Exit 55 – Motor Pkwy.
Right onto Motor Pkwy. Take right fork
onto Old Willets Path. Duo is on the right.

LIE going East: Exit 55 – Motor Pkwy.
Left onto Motor Pkwy. Just before 2nd light,
fork right onto Old Willets Path.

Northern St. Pkwy going East: NSP turns
into Rt. 454. Turn right at 2nd light – Old
Willets Path. Duo is 1 mile on the left.

Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin

NY Judicial Comm. on Women in
the Courts

25 Bowler Street, Rm. 878

New York, NY 10004

10004/2517



KAREN GROSS, ESQ.
Author of *FAILURE & FORGIVENESS*
and forthcoming book *LADIES IN RED*

**A LOOK AT OUR NATION'S FIRST WOMAN DEBTOR:
REBUTTING MYTHS ABOUT WOMEN, MONEY & POWER**

Karen Gross is a Professor of Law at the New York Law School. Prior to entering academia in 1984, She practiced law at Weil, Gotshal & Manges in New York. Professor Gross speaks in the U.S. and abroad frequently. Recently, she testified before the Committee on the Judiciary, United States House of Representatives, 107th Congress. Professor Gross' remarks focused on the impact pending legislation would have on women and children.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ROUNDTABLE

sponsored by

SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S TASK FORCE ON FAMILY VIOLENCE

SUFFOLK COUNTY WOMEN AND THE COURTS COMMITTEE and

**WOMEN IN THE LAW COMMITTEE OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**

In recognition of "**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**", you are cordially invited to participate in a roundtable discussion on the issue of underserved victims of Domestic Violence in Suffolk County. This forum will focus on connecting victims with available services, increasing reporting of incidents of domestic violence and exploring solutions to unmet needs.

The event will take place at the Suffolk County Bar Association on October 25, 2000 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

The speakers at the forum will include:

Charlotte Watson- Executive Director of the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

Yvonne Pena- Executive Director Suffolk County Human Rights Commission

Melissa Watson- Representative of the Shinnecock Indian Reservation

Your role as a community partner in this field can lend a special expertise to this forum. A report with recommendations and suggestions for implementation will be generated by the roundtable. Enclosed are directions to the Suffolk County Bar Association.

R.S.V.P. by October 15, 2000 to **Jane Hollander** at 631 854-9467.

**Suffolk County Bar Association Bar Center
560 Wheeler Road (Route 111)
Hauppauge, NY 11788**

Directions:

FROM WESTERN LI

East on the LIE to Exit 56 (Route 111). Turn left (north) under the expressway - onto Wheeler Road. Continue north on Wheeler Road for about .8 mile (you will pass the intersections of Rabro Drive where signs direct you to the Federal Court, and then Kings Highway - shortly after passing the Kings Highway intersection there is a chiropractor's office on the left hand side) on the left you will see the left turn lane entering the bar center property.

East on the Northern State Parkway to the end which will place you on Veterans Memorial Highway (route 454). Continue east on Veterans Memorial Highway (454) to Route 111 (Wheeler Road) where you turn right (south). Continue south on Wheeler Road for approximately .8 mile

FROM EASTERN LI

West on the LIE to Exit 56 (Route 111) and turn right (north) onto Wheeler Road. continue north on Wheeler Road for approximately .8 mile (you will pass the intersections of Rabro Drive where signs direct you to the Federal Court, and then Kings Highway - shortly after passing the Kings Highway intersection there is a chiropractor's office on the left hand side) on the left you will see the left turn lane entering the bar center property.

East on Veterans Memorial Highway (Route 454) to Route 111 (Wheeler Road). Turn left (south). Continue south on Wheeler Road for approximately .8 mile until you come to the entrance of the bar center on your right.

Call 631 234-5511 if you need further directions.

SUFFOLK COUNTY JUDICIAL COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS

Meeting Date: September 13, 2000

Present:

Cheryl Dimmer, Esq., SC, Chair
Isabel Buse, Esq., Family HEX
Vicker Croce, DV Ct. Resource Co-Ord.
Hon. Elizabeth Emerson, SC
Hon. Patricia Filiberto, DC
Lynn C. Fullshire, Law Library
Joan Terese Hudson, Women's Services
Just. Deborah E. Kooperstein
Renée Lazer, Chair DCC Comm.

Thomas Lorito, Security
Joan McNichol, Esq., WBASNY
Hon. Anne F. Mead
Barbara Mehrman, Touro Law School
Hon. A. Gail Prudenti, DAJ
Victor V. Rossomano, DC Chief Clerk
Thalia Stavrides, Esq., Dist. Atty.
Hon. Hertha Trotto, DC
Georgia A. Tschember, Esq., Dist. Atty.

Guest: Hon. Salvatore A. Alamia; Kathy Orazi, Domestic Violence Court Intern

Minutes: Lynn C. Fullshire

Minutes of 6/21/00: The minutes were accepted, with the addition that Joan Hudson was present at the meeting.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month: Cheryl passed out the October calendar outlining the Domestic Violence Awareness Month programs planned.

- 10/6 9AM Judge Prudenti hosts a Breakfast reception in the 2d Floor Conference room in DC
10 AM Formal opening ceremony for the Domestic Violence Awareness Court, in the C.I. Central Jury Room. Keynote speaker: Judge Leventhal, 1st judge in New York to preside over a Domestic Violence Court. All participating agencies will be present.
- 10/12 Full day Court Observance of Domestic Violence, sponsored by NALS of Suffolk County (association for legal secretaries) in District Court. Includes luncheon at the Culinary Institute.
- 10/16 Week of 10/16 there will be breakfast/luncheon meeting for court employees. The Hon. Marion McNulty and the Hon. Madeleine Fitzgibbon will speak at the CI program. Speaker for Riverhead not yet determined.
- 10/25 Roundtable/Summit cosponsored by the Women in the Law Committee of the SCBA and the Suffolk County Domestic Violence Task Force. Issue: Underserved communities/populations in the Domestic Violence Field.

SCWBA will hold an even meeting at the Culinary Institute with guest speakers Judge Madeleine Fitzgibbon, and Charlotte Watson, Executive Director of the NYS Office for the

Prevention of Domestic Violence.

- 10/26 Outreach to the Southampton Public Schools - we are sending a speaker (Court Attorney Tom Draycott from Family Court) to speak on Domestic Violence.
- 10/26 There will be a 1 ½ hour panel discussion at the Middle County Library, led by the Chief Clerks from District Court (Victor Rossomano,) Family Court (Robert O'Mara,) and Supreme Court (Robert Bennett.)
- 10/26 Coalition Against Domestic Violence will hold a dinner at Captain Bills Restaurant. Judge Prudenti will be the keynote speaker, and the Hon. Marion Fitzgibbon and the Hon. Anne Mead will be honored.

Project Assist: Judge Emerson reported on the status of this project. We have had a big assist from District Court personnel. All materials have been reviewed by the committee, collated, and placed in the racks. We have even more material than the racks can accommodate, so we may be looking for another rack soon.

It was decided that we do want a formal launch for this program. We would like to invite the people from the State, County, Towns, etc. that have helped with the project. It was decided to have a 4PM coffee reception to launch this in late October or the beginning of November.

Future plans - Judge Emerson would like to make a lot of these materials available in the outlying District Courts. Judge Prudenti agrees, and would like to establish a site in the East End as well, perhaps in the Family Court in Riverhead. Justice Kooperstein noted that Southampton Town Court will have a place for a rack in their new facility.

Suffolk County Drug Treatment Court: Judge Alamia spoke to the Committee on the new Drug Treatment Court. He began by stating that the theory behind the Drug Treatment Courts was one of coerced compliance with rehabilitation. The idea originated in 1989 in Dade County, Florida. The Federal government is very willing to provide funding through grants. Judge Block founded our Suffolk County Drug Treatment Court in 1996, with Judge Alamia taking over in 1997 after Judge Block's untimely death.

The program bases much of its authority on the idea of Interim Probation, as made possible by statute. Post conviction programs are only open to those individuals involved with the Criminal Justice System. Arrests are reviewed daily for eligibility; felony and misdemeanor offenses are eligible, but not violent offenses, and the individual must be 16 years of age or older.

Judge Alamia is an Acting County Court Judge so that he may accept pleas from those who must plead guilty to felony charges. To graduate, the participants must participate for at least 12 months, and be drug free for at least 6 months. Successful recovery is the prime goal of this court. If necessary, they will refocus and send struggling participants on retreats.

Because the treatment programs are post conviction programs, the defendant must plead guilty. They sign an alternate sentence agreement that they will be given if they choose to not complete the drug rehabilitation agreement.

Judge Alamia stressed that while treatment is the priority, participants must continue their education (usually through a GED.) There are seven levels of treatment programs available, from thrice weekly outpatient programs, to long term inpatient treatment facilities. From September 1996 (when the Court opened) through August of 2000, there have been 450 participants, of which 34% were female.

Drug Court Graduation - the next graduation ceremony will be 11/15/00 at 10AM in the Central Jury Room in Central Islip.

Mental Health Court: Judge Alamia also spoke on the problems of MICAs (Mentally Ill, Chemically Addicted) in the Criminal Justice System. Judge Alamia and Judge Fitzgibbon visited a Mental Health Court in Fort Lauderdale, which is 3 years old, and was the first in the country to address this population. The court is limited in jurisdiction to misdemeanor crimes.

Judge Alamia and Judge Fitzgibbon are looking into developing a MICA Court program for Suffolk. It would be a mandated treatment court, probably an adjunct of the Drug Treatment Court. It is now in the planning stages, along with a Juvenile Drug Treatment Court in the Family Court.

Child Care for Court Employees: Vic Rossomano is trying to get a copy of the designs for the Federal Day Care center. September 2001 is the target date for the opening of this facility.

Women's History Month: This subcommittee (Judge Prudenti, Judge Trotto, Lynn Fullshire, Joan McNichol, Joan Hudson, Marcy Meehan, Stacy Evans and Barbara Mehrman) will meet to discuss plans for this year's program for March 2001.

November Meeting Date: November 15, 2000
12:30 PM Supreme Court, Central Islip

December Luncheon Date: December 6, 2000
Location TBA

From: Hon. Juanita Bing Newton
To: Goodman, Jill
Date: 11/2/00 4:47PM
Subject: Re: Judges' Panel

Hi,

Your hypothetical is very similar to a felony case I tried. I am looking for the file, nothing like a reality based case to liven up the discussion. It worked for CBS; maybe it will work for us.

I am thinking of some judges who know the area but will not be as defensive as the current keepers of the flame.

What do you know about Diane Kiesel. She is the D.V. judge in the Bronx and a former ADA.

Do you have the names of the D.V. and Matrimonial judges in the City? I agree that J. Lauria must be on the panel.

I will check in with you on Monday



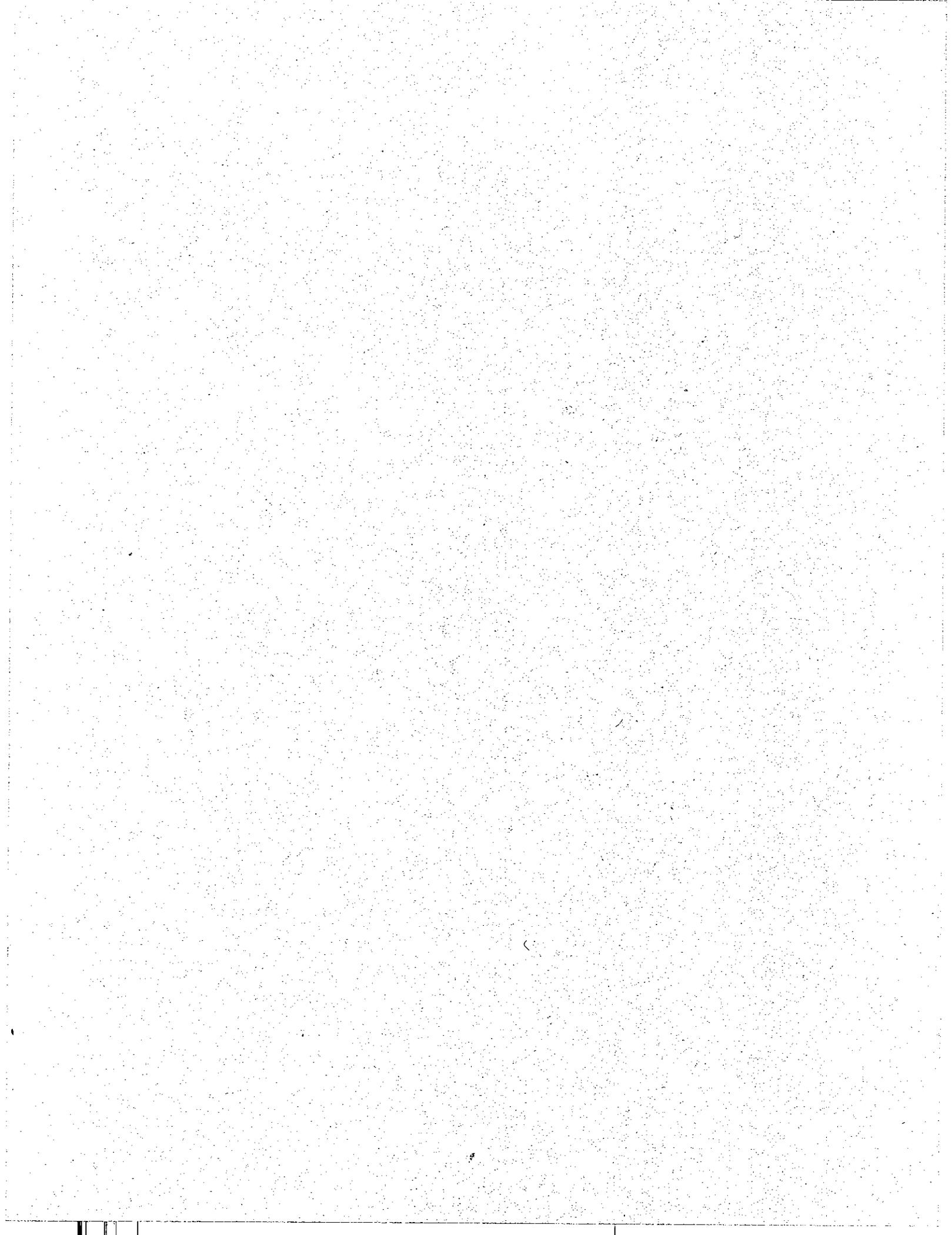
New York City Civil Court Committee

Hon. Sara Lee Evans
Civil Court Judge
111 Centre Street
New York, New York 10013

Telephone: (212) 374-8156
Fax: (212) 374

Hon. Maria Millin
Housing Court Judge
111 Centre Street
New York, New York 10013

Telephone: (212) 374-8469



M E M O R A N D U M

To: Jill Goodman
From: Maria Milin
Date: January 31, 2001
Re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

On Monday, October 30, 2000, the Civil Court Anti-Gender Bias Committee sponsored a forum to raise awareness of the issue of domestic violence and to provide information regarding what resources are available to victims and their families in the community and in the court.

The program began with inspiring introductory remarks from New York City Civil Court Administrative Judge Fern Fisher Brandveen who discussed her own experiences as the child of a victim of domestic violence. Next was a screening of the video of "It's Not Okay", which was followed by remarks as well as an interactive exchange with audience members by two representatives of Safe Horizons.

This lunchtime program was held in the Civil Court, New York County Jury Room, in order to allow members of the Civil Court community as well as the general community to participate.

-2-

Although attendance was not as large as was hoped for, those who attended enthusiastically participated and gave their complete and sincere attention to the program.

Attached is a copy of the flyer used to publicize the event.

/jmc

The goal of this program is to share information and raise awareness of the incidence of domestic violence and the help that is available to victims and their families in the community and the court.

Monday, Oct. 30, 2000

1:15 P.M.

Room 362 - Jury Room

Welcome Introduction:

Hon. Fern Fisher-Brandveen

Administrative Judge of the Civil Court of the City of N.Y.

Video Presentation - "It's Not Okay"

Guest Speaker:

Yanet Santiago

Director of Safe Horizon

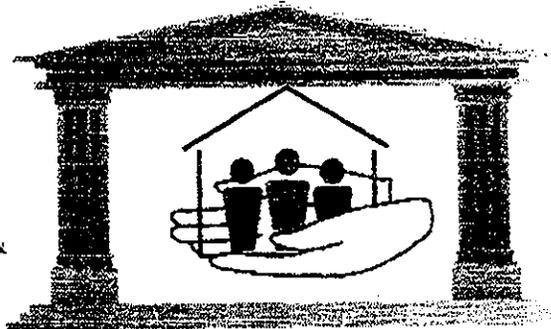
Closing Comment:

Hon. Maria Milin

Housing Court Judge and member of the Gender Bias Committee

For information on all Outreach Programs contact: Jo-Ann Carey (212) 374-1348

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS IMPORTANT EVENT



Presented by Civil Court of the City of New York
Community Outreach 2000 Initiative

Civil Court Community Outreach Logo
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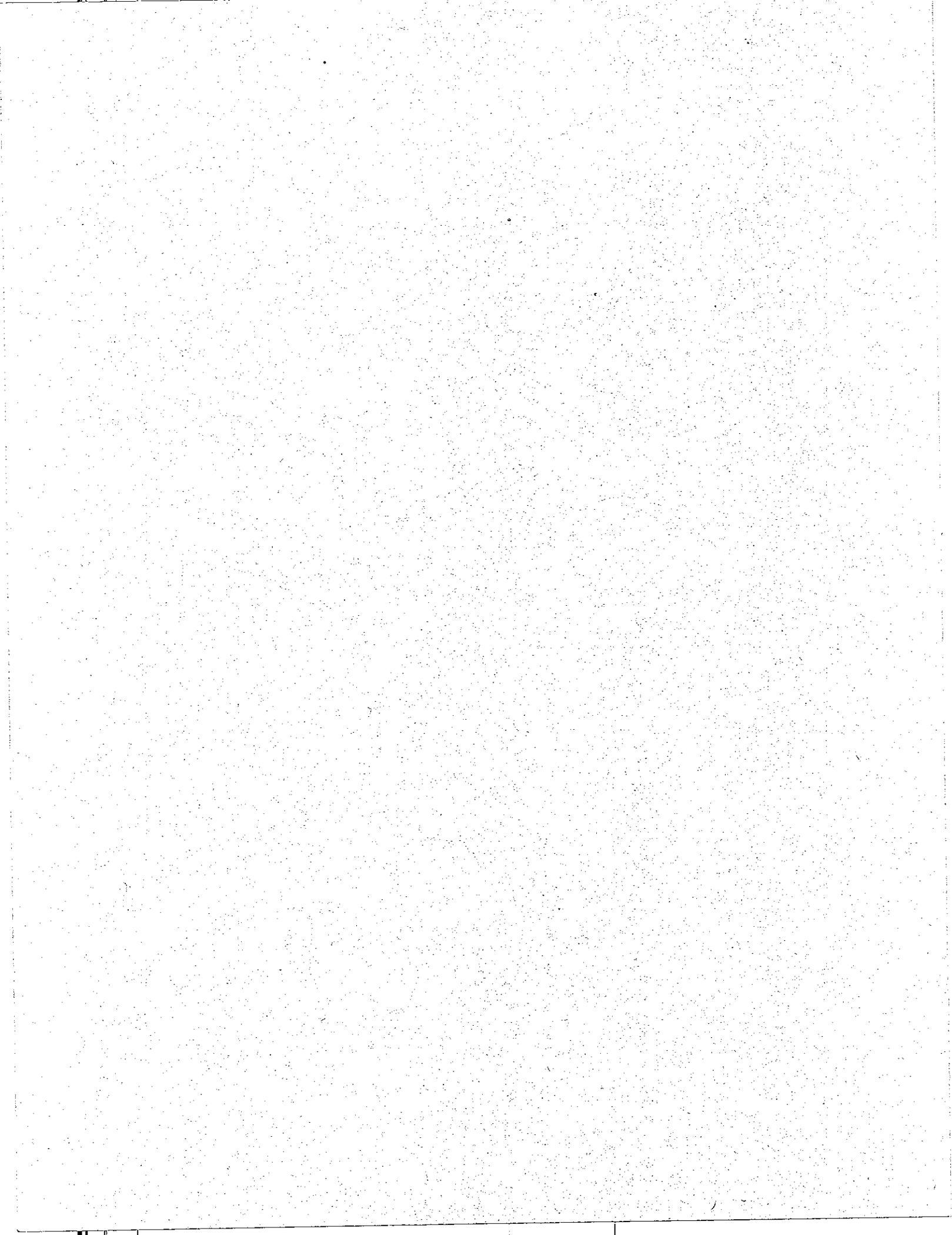


New York City Criminal Court Anti-Bias Committee

Hon. Laura Ward
Acting Justice, Supreme Court
100 Centre Street
New York, NY 10013

Telephone: (212) 374-5857

Fax: (212) 374-2579



*Criminal Court
of the
City of New York*



LAURA A. WARD
JUDGE

CHAMBERS
100 CENTRE STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10013

MEMORANDUM

November 16, 2000

To: Honorable Betty Weinberg Ellerin
From: Honorable Laura A. Ward ^(LAW)
Re: Domestic Violence Month Report for the New York City Criminal Courts

I am pleased to report that the New York City Criminal Courts hosted successful domestic violence programs for Domestic Violence Month.

New York County

New York County Criminal Court joined forces with the New York County Supreme Court and hosted two programs. The first program entitled "Domestic Violence: Breaking the Cycle - Batterer's Program Do They Work?" was held on October 5, 2000, at 5 P.M. The speakers included Charlotte A. Watson, Director of the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence; Dr. Jack Samanian, Director of the New York City Alternative Assistance Program; Ted Bunch, Director of Safe Horizon's Alternatives to Violence, and Dr. Mary Ann Forgery, Fordham University's Graduate School of Social Service. In addition, Dr. Sarmanian brought a former program participant and current counselor to address the audience. Approximately forty people attended.

The second program entitled "Domestic Violence Cases: The Victim - The Reluctant Witness" was held on October 30, 2000, at 1 P.M. The speakers included the Honorable Ruth Pickholz, Presiding Judge for the Domestic Violence Trial Part in New York County Criminal Court; Deborah Tuerkheimer, Assistant District Attorney assigned to the Family Violence and Child Abuse Unit in the New York County District Attorney's office, and Lucia Raiford, Director of the Domestic Violence Unit for the New York City Police Department. Approximately sixty people attended.

Due to the interest generated by these programs, we hope to hold a third panel to continue the discussion about the reluctant witness.

Bronx County

The Bronx County Criminal Court together with the Bronx County Family Court presented a joint program on October 3, 2000. Over 40 people attended the program. Family Court Judges Tandra Dawson and Carol Stokinger spoke and compared the procedures for domestic violence cases in the Family and Criminal Court. Both judges had been Assistant District Attorneys. Judge Dawson was a former ADA in the Bronx. Judge Stokinger was a former ADA in New York County.

Queens County

Queens County Criminal Court held its program on October 31, 2000, at 9 A.M. Angie Wang of Safe Horizon moderated a panel discussion relating to issues surrounding immigrant women who find themselves victims of domestic violence. The program was well attended.

Richmond County

Over 40 people attended the program presented by the Richmond County Criminal Court on November 3, 2000, at 8:30 A.M. Speakers, including Dr. Jack Samanian; Director of the New York City Alternative Assistance Program, Ted Bunch; Director of Safe Horizon's Alternatives to Violence, and Xiao Chun Jin, CSW, Supervisor of the Asian Outreach Clinic discussed the effectiveness of batterers' programs.

Kings County

Information to follow.

*Criminal Court
of the
City of New York*



LAURA A. WARD
JUDGE

CHAMBERS
100 CENTRE STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10013

MEMORANDUM

November 17, 2000

To: Honorable Betty Weinberg Ellerin
From: Honorable Laura A. Ward *LAW*
Re: Domestic Violence Month Report for the New York City Criminal Courts

This is a follow-up to my memorandum dated November 16, 2000, regarding the domestic violence programs presented by the New York City Criminal Courts.

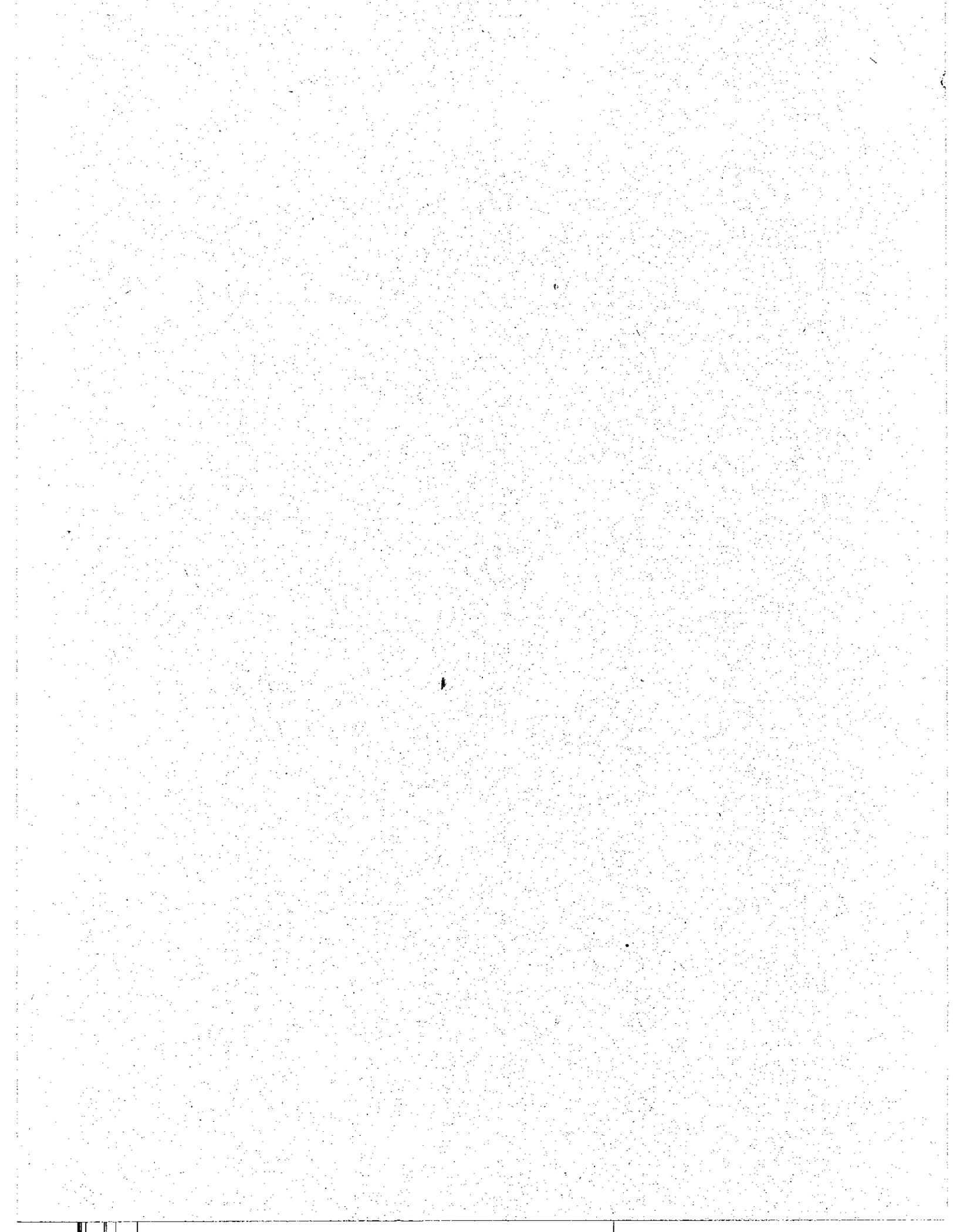
Kings County

The Kings County program dealt with batterers programs. The panel included Dr. John Aponte of New York Forensic; Ted Bunch, Director of the Alternatives to Violence Program; Geri Abelson, CSWR, BCD, Clinical Director of the Interborough Developmental and Consultation Center; and Melissa Luna, Community Education Coordinator of Park Slope Safe Homes Project. Ms. Abelson was joined by a staff counselor and a former batterer, both from her program. Approximately 50 people attended the program.

Gender Bias Committee of the Family Courts of the City of New York

Hon. Nora Freeman
NYC Family Court
283 Adams Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Telephone: (718) 643-4017
Fax: (718) 643-5103





Family Court of the State of New York
City of New York

NORA FREEMAN

JUDGE
TO:

Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin

283 ADAMS STREET
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11201

FROM:

Hon. Nora Freeman *NF*

RE:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month programs
sponsored by NYC Family Courts

DATE:

December 4, 2000

In October 2000 the Gender Fairness Committees in NYC Family Court sponsored several programs concerning domestic violence. For the first time, events were planned both for in-court personnel and for the public.

In-house presentations included speakers from offices of the different counties' District Attorneys, representatives from community groups that are organizing efforts geared towards the needs of their constituencies (New York Asian Women, the Jewish community, people with disabilities, and Sakhi, which addresses the needs of South Asian women), as well as Family Court Judges.

The public programs were by invitation, since our courthouses cannot accommodate large groups of people. Invitations were sent to personnel who might deal with domestic violence issues in high schools, colleges, hospitals, churches and community groups. The speakers in the Bronx Family Court were from the Office of Court Administration, the District Attorney's office, and Sanctuary for Families. In Manhattan, presentations were made by New York Asian women and Sanctuary for Families. In Brooklyn, the program opened with a theatrical presentation from the "My Voice Theater," a group of teenagers who write and perform their own skits and monologues about domestic violence, followed by a panel discussion among a prosecutor, an ACS attorney, two advocates from community groups, and a Family Court Judge.

Some of our programs were sponsored jointly with another court or the District Attorney's office. These joint efforts enabled us to broaden our outreach, as well as provide additional space.

The response to all the programs was extremely positive, and some follow-up programs are already being discussed.

NF/br

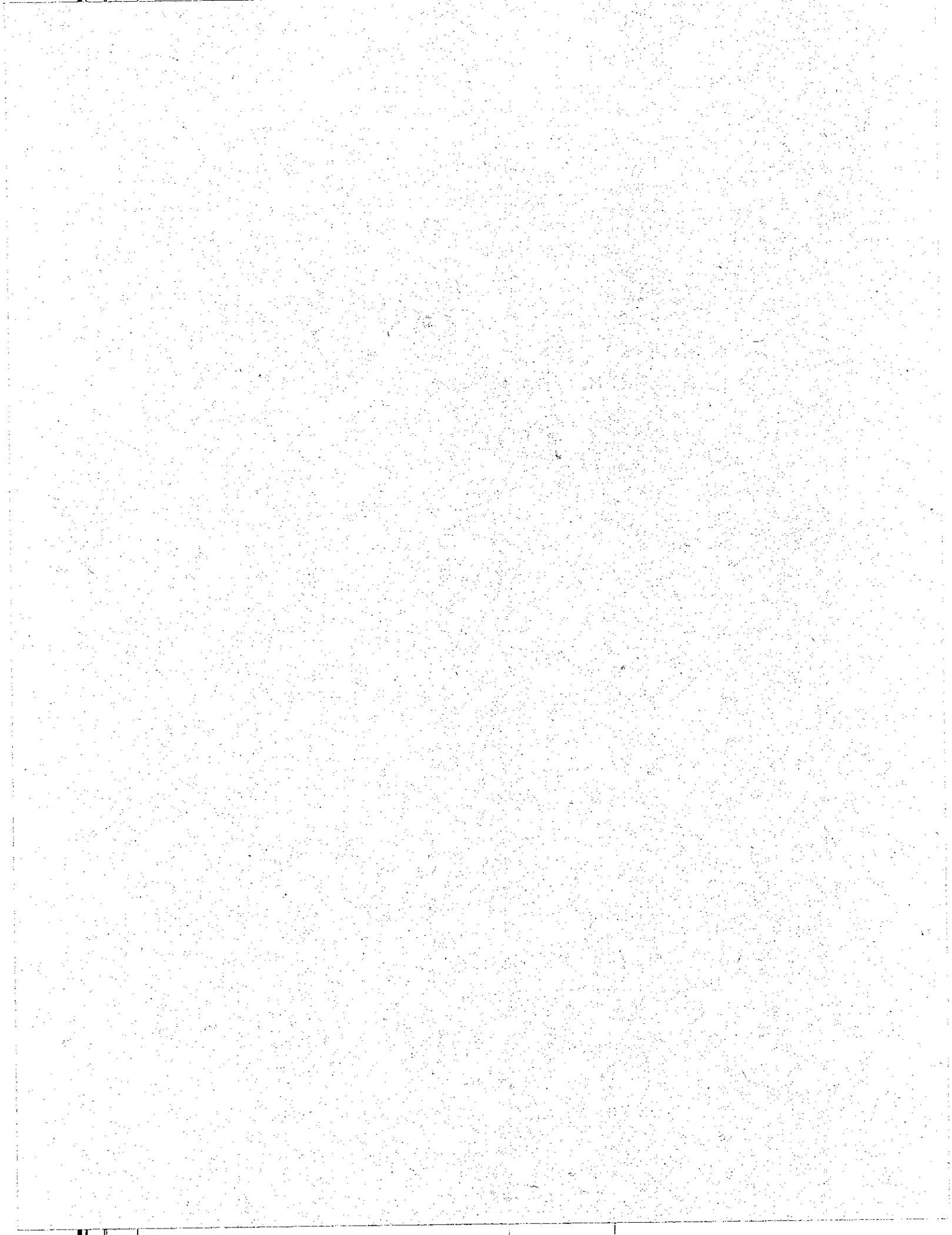
cc: Honorable Joseph M. Lauria



Anti-Bias Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Term

Hon. Alice Schlesinger
Justice, Supreme Court
60 Centre Street, Room 557
New York, New York 10007

Telephone: (212) 374-4744
Fax: (212) 374-3907



***In Celebration of Women's History
Month***

**3rd ANNUAL
PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT**

***"Women of Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York
County and Office of the New York County Clerk"***

Program

March 27, 2001

Rotunda - 60 Centre Street

12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

**"The Issues Facing Women in the
21st Century"**

Guest Speakers:

Dr. Ruth Westheimer

Author/TV Personality

Mary Wilson

Entertainer/Lecturer

Soloist

Franc Perry

*Principal Appellate Court Attorney
Appellate Term, New York County*

Sponsored by the Antibias Committee and New York County Clerk's Office

***COURTHOUSE POLICY ON
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
WHAT EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW***

MODERATOR

HON. JACQUELINE W. SILBERMANN

Administrative Judge for Matrimonial Matters

GUEST SPEAKERS

CHARLOTTE WATSON

Executive Director, NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

ROBERT NICOLAIS

Associate Counsel, NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

NANCY MANGOLD

Asst. Deputy Chief Administrator
Division of Court Operations OCA

JILL LAURIE GOODMAN

NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

Sponsored by the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Anti-Bias
Committee, Supreme Court, New York County

NEW YORK CITY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCES

The following is a list of courts, district attorney offices, and services for victims of domestic violence in New York City. For lists of domestic violence resources in other parts of New York State, please call the Fund for Modern Courts at (212) 575-1577.

COURTS

THE BRONX

Family Court
900 Sheridan Avenue
(718) 590-3377

Criminal Court
215 East 161st Street
(718) 590-2865

BROOKLYN

Family Court
283 Adams Street
(718) 643-4546

Criminal Court
120 Schermerhorn
Street
(718) 643-2375

MANHATTAN

Family Court
60 Lafayette Street
(212) 374-3612

Criminal Court
100 Centre Street
(212) 374-6216

QUEENS

Family Court
89-14 Parsons
Boulevard
(718) 520-3985

Criminal Court
125-01 Queens
Boulevard
(718) 520-3855

STATEN ISLAND

Family Court
100 Richmond
Terrace
(718) 390-5462

Criminal Court
67 Targee Street
(718) 390-8410

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS' OFFICES

THE BRONX

215 East 161st St.
(718) 590-2000

BROOKLYN

Renaissance Plaza,
350 Jay Street
(718) 250-2000

MANHATTAN

1 Hogan Place
(212) 335-9000

QUEENS

125-01 Queens
Boulevard
(718) 286-6000

STATEN ISLAND

36 Richmond Terrace
(718) 876-6300

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

The following is a listing of free or low-cost services for victims of domestic violence.

STATEWIDE

New York State Domestic
Violence Hotline
(800) 942-6906 (English),
(800) 942-6908 (Spanish)

New York State Child Abuse
and Maltreatment Reporting
Center
(800) 342-3720

National Committee to
Prevent Child Abuse - New
York State Chapter,
(800) 342-PIRC

Crime Victim's
Compensation Board,
(212) 417-5160,
(518) 457-8727
State agency that provides
financial assistance for crime
victims.

CITYWIDE AND MANHATTAN

Victim Services Agency

This agency offers a wide range of services for domestic violence and other victims in locations throughout New York City. The following are domestic violence services based in Manhattan but available to people throughout the City.

• New York City Domestic Violence Hotline
(800) 621-HOPE; Hearing impaired (800) 810-7444. 24-hour hotline in English and Spanish.

• Alternatives to Violence (212) 577-8235
Educational program for men who have violently abused their partners. Classes in English and Spanish.

• Emergency Housing Transfer
(212) 577-3870
Advocates with City agencies to arrange for battered women and other intimidated victims to transfer to safe housing in other parts of the city.

• Special Emergency Assistance Funds
(212) 577-7354
Funds to cover emergency housing, transportation, and security costs are sometimes available.

The following are Victim Services domestic violence programs for Manhattan residents:

• **Harlem Community Office**
(212) 932-8599

Counseling, support group for battered women, cash for essentials and emergencies, emergency housing transfers, support group for victims of elder abuse, emergency lock repair, restitution, document replacement. Service in English and Spanish.

• **Manhattan Criminal Court Restitution Center**
(212) 577-1267

Assists victims in criminal court obtain and collect restitution. Staff works with defendants to make payment schedules and collect and distribute funds.

• **Manhattan Family Counseling Services**
(212) 740-7446

Counseling, advocacy, and practical services for families experiencing domestic violence, to avoid the placement of their children in foster care. Parenting classes.

• **Manhattan Family Court Unit**, (212) 577-1270

Helps clients to negotiate the Family Court System; also crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy for orders of protection, reception center for clients awaiting a court appearance. Service in English and Spanish.

• **Washington Heights/Inwood Community Office**
(212) 740-7446

Offers counseling and support groups for battered women, cash for essentials and emergencies, emergency housing transfers, emergency lock repair, restitution assistance, document replacement, foster care prevention program. Service in English and Spanish.

• **West Side Community Office**
(212) 874-0724

Counseling, support groups, cash for essentials and emergencies, emergency housing transfers, lock repair, restitution, and document replacement. Service in English and Spanish.

Ackerman Institute for Family Therapy, Marital Violence Programs
(212) 879-4900

Couples therapy for batterers and spouses. Service in English, Spanish, and French.

American Indian Community House
(212) 598-0100

Legal referral to pro bono attorneys specializing in domestic relations.

Barrier Free Living, Inc., Family Violence Program
(212) 677-6663

For people with physical disabilities. Crisis evaluations, treatment and community outreach. Service in English, Spanish, American Sign Language.

Bellevue Hospital Center
(212) 561-3755

Short-term counseling, referrals for other services. Pro bono legal assistance to victims of violent crime. Service in English, Spanish.

Center for battered Women's Legal Services, Sanctuary for Families
(212) 349-6009

Free legal representation for domestic violence victims from Bronx or Manhattan with limited income.

Chinese-American Planning Council, Inc., Project HELP
(212) 941-0978

24-hour crisis line, individual/group counseling, help in obtaining orders of protection, court accompaniment, advocates for free legal services. Service in English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Taiwanese.

Church of Heavenly Rest
(212) 289-3400

Weekly domestic violence support group.

Community Counseling and Mediation
(212) 255-5477

Individual, group, and family counseling. Service in English, Creole, French, Spanish.

Edwin Gould Services for Children, Steps to End Family Violence
(212) 410-4200

Services for women involved in the criminal justice system who have a history of domestic abuse, particularly those who fought back against their abusers. Support groups, individual counseling, court accompaniment for abused women who have been arrested. Service in English and Spanish.

Henry Street Settlement - Urban Family Shelter
(212) 475-6400

Shelter, support groups, 24-hour hotline. Service in English and Spanish.

Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, Center for the Prevention of Family Violence
(212) 582-9100

Family violence hotline (718-237-1337), crisis intervention, counseling services, shelter and scattered-site apartments for victims of battering, special counseling for children, referral and educational information for battered women, children, and batterers. Service in English, Hebrew, Russian, Spanish, Yiddish.

Legal Services for New York City
(212) 431-7200

Neighborhood offices offer legal representation for poor people who meet financial eligibility and other guidelines.

Missionaries of Charity
(212) 222-7229

Communal night shelter (3 weeks maximum) for battered women.

My Sister's Place

(914) 683-1333;
hotline (914) 969-5800

Shelter for women and children in situations of domestic violence; short-term counseling, welfare advocacy, family/criminal court assistance, referral to other services, support groups. Located in Westchester, but serves NYC as well. Service in English and Spanish.

National Victim Center, Victim Services Referral and Information
(800) 394-2255

Links crime victims and witnesses with direct assistance in their communities.

New York Asian Women's Center
(212) 732-5230

24-hour hotline, safe shelter, crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy, etc. Service in English, Chinese, Korean, and other Asian languages/dialects.

New York Association for New Americans
(800) 735-7359, (212) 425-5051

Direct legal representation to victims of domestic violence who are in need of special immigration remedies. Service in English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Haitian, Creole, French, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Italian, Greek, Cambodian.

New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project
(212) 807-6761

Counseling, police advocacy, court advocacy, short-term counseling, support groups, 24-hour hotline (212-807-0197).

New York University Battered Women's Law Project
(212) 998-6573

Volunteer law students explain legal procedures, give referrals for legal advice, accompany clients to court to obtain orders of protection. Service in English and Spanish.

Sakhi for South Asian Women
(212) 695-5447

Confidential advocacy, referral, liaison, and support services for battered South Asian Women. Service in English and Asian Indian dialects.

Sanctuary for Families, Inc.
(212) 349-6009

90-day crisis shelter, counseling, advocacy and referrals, support groups, group for formerly abused women, art therapy, play groups for children, legal services. Service in English and Spanish.

Urban Women's Retreat
(212) 690-6490

24-hour helpline, 90-day shelter for battered women and their children, individual/group counseling, psychotherapy referrals, housing, some day-care available. Service in English and Spanish.

Vietnamese American Cultural Organization, Domestic Violence Project
(212) 343-0762

Individual/family counseling, home visits, advocacy, legal/social services, service referral. Service in English, Vietnamese, Chinese, Laotian, Cambodian.

Violence Intervention Program
(212) 360-5090

Battered women's program providing advocacy (court, medical, etc.), crisis counseling, support groups, community education, information/referral, shelter. First priority are women victims of domestic violence from East Harlem. Service in English and Spanish.

Women in Need, STOPP Program
(212) 695-4827

Preventive services to help women with families at risk of abuse, neglect and/or domestic violence. Counseling, advocacy, referral, etc. Service in English and Spanish.

BRONX

Aegis Battered Women's Program, Shelter for Battered Women
(718) 733-4440

Battered women's shelter, individual/group counseling, court advocacy, assistance with obtaining work and permanent housing, medical assistance, recreation, field trip, placement in area schools for children, programs for children, 24-hour crisis intervention hotline. Service in English and Spanish.

Bronx Center for Community Services
(718) 584-5035

Counseling for battered women. Service in English and Spanish.

Bronx Independent Living Services

(718) 515-2800; TDD/TTY (718) 515-2803
Services available to domestic violence victims who have disabilities and thus cannot receive mainstream domestic violence services. Counseling, crisis intervention, information and referral, advocacy for social services and housing, legal advocacy for orders of protection, tracking court proceedings and linkages with appropriate legal services, transportation to receive services. Service in English, Spanish, American Sign Language.

Bronx Lebanon Psychiatric Center
(718) 590-5037

Counseling for battered women. Service in English, Spanish, Haitian, Creole, Hindi, French, Polish, others.

East Bronx Council on the Aging, Domestic Violence Assistance Program
(718) 409-0050

For people 60 and over, counseling, group work, benefits assistance, legal referral, court escort, referral to safe havens.

Edenwald-Gun Hill Neighborhood Center
(718) 652-2232

Can help secure counseling and other social services for victims of domestic violence.

Fordham-Tremont Community Mental Health Center - Family Violence Crisis Service

(718) 960-0395
Individual, group, and family counseling. Service in English, Spanish, German, French.

Hostos Women and Immigrants' Rights Center

(718) 518-4312
Legal counseling, counseling, therapy, advocacy, referrals. Service in English and Spanish.

Legal Aid Society, Bronx Neighborhood Office

(718) 991-4600

Legal Services for New York City:

- Courtlandt Avenue Office, (718) 993-6250
- Grand Concourse Office, (718) 220-0030
- Office for the Elderly, (718) 220-0030

St. Rita's Center, (718) 295-8175

For refugees living in New York City. Counseling, police or hospital escort, advocacy, follow-up. Service in English, Russian, Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Spanish.

Victim Services, Bronx Services

• **Bronx Crime Victims Center**

(718) 933-1000
Long-term individual and group counseling, advocacy, information and referrals.

• **Bronx Criminal Court - Complaint Room**
(718) 590-2387

Information, referrals, crisis intervention counseling and advocacy for orders of protection to victims who accompany police officers to the complaint room.

• **Bronx Criminal Court Reception Center**
(718) 590-2355

Safe, comfortable place in criminal court where victims and witnesses may wait for court appearances. Also, short-term counseling, court advocacy, referrals, emergency housing relocation for intimidated victims and witnesses.

• **Bronx Family Counseling Center**

(718) 842-6660
Counseling, advocacy, and practical services for families, especially those experiencing domestic violence, to avoid the placement of their children in foster care.

• **Bronx Family Court Unit**

(718) 590-2371
Helps clients in family offense cases negotiate the Family Court system. Crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy for orders of protection, reception center for

clients awaiting court appearances, counseling for children of domestic violence victims, supervised visitation program.

• **Claremont Community Office**

(718) 538-9382
Counseling for victims of domestic violence, domestic violence women's support group, cash for food and other essentials, help with replacing documents, and with applying for compensation for costs incurred due to a crime.

• **Kingsbridge Community Office**
(718) 933-1000

Counseling, cash for essentials and emergencies, emergency housing transfers, emergency lock repair, restitution assistance, help victims apply for compensation for costs incurred due to crime, document replacement.

• **Safe Homes - Kingsbridge Project Oasis**
(718) 933-1000

A safe home network for battered women and their children. Clients receive counseling, parenting, workshops, support groups, and advocacy for other services.

BROOKLYN

Accion cultural Hijos Del Caribe, Inc.
(718) 647-9755.

Counseling, crisis intervention, advocacy, information/referral. Service in English and Spanish.

Brooklyn Bar Association, Volunteer Lawyers Project and Battered Women's Legal Helpline

(718) 624-3894, (718) 624-7700
Volunteer lawyers represent clients in custody, visitation and support matters, and help in obtaining orders of protection. Service in English and Spanish.

Center for Elimination of Violence in the Family/Women's Survival Space
(718) 439-4612

90-day shelter for women and children; referrals for medical, legal, and housing services and jobs; crisis intervention; individual/group counseling for women and children; 24-hour hotline (718-439-1000). Service in English, Creole, French, Haitian, Russian, Spanish.

Family Project

(718) 443-3928
90-day emergency shelter for battered women and their children, support groups, counseling, vocational programs, referrals for public assistance and housing, assistance with obtaining day care, etc.

Haitian Centers Council

(718) 855-7275
Individual, couples, and family counseling for those in situations of domestic violence, advocacy and referrals. Service in English, French, Haitian, and Creole.

**Legal Aid Society, Civil Division,
Brooklyn Neighborhood Office**
(718) 722-3100

Legal Services for New York City
(212) 431-7200

Brooklyn Neighborhood Offices:

- Bedford Stuyvesant Community Legal Services, (718) 636-1155
- Brighton Office, (718) 934-2989
- Joralemon Street Office, (718) 852-8888
- Williamsburg Office, (718) 782-6195
- East Brooklyn Office, (718) 345-6200

**Long Island College Hospital, Victims of
Violence/Rape Crisis Intervention**
(718) 780-4623

*Short-term counseling, police/court
advocacy, etc.*

**Medgar Evers College Center for
Women's Development**
(718) 270-5020

*Provides domestic violence referrals and
offers drug/alcohol abuse prevention. Open
to all NYC residents. Service in English,
Creole, Spanish.*

Park Slope Safe Homes Project
(718) 499-2151

*Counseling, support group, advocacy, safe
dwelling, information/referral, emergency
assistance. Special attention given to
neighborhood residents and working,
undocumented, and lesbian women. Service
in English, Arabic, Spanish.*

Providence House

(718) 284-8688, (718) 771-6144

*Shelter for up to 6 months, crisis
intervention, referrals for other services.
Service in English and Spanish.*

Victim Services, Brooklyn Services

• **Alternatives to Violence**

(718) 834-7471

*Educational program for men who have
violently abused their partners. Service in
English and Spanish.*

• **Bedford-Stuyvesant Community Office**

(718) 399-8099

*Group/individual counseling, support groups
for victims of domestic violence, assistance
with emergency housing transfers,
restitution, document replacement and
emergency lock repair, emergency cash for
essentials, play-therapy group for children
of domestic violence victims.*

• **Brooklyn Crime Victims Center**

(718) 858-9486

*Long-term counseling for adult and child
victims of violent crime.*

• **Brooklyn Criminal Court Complaint
Room**

(718) 250-3545

*Information, referrals, crisis intervention,
counseling, and advocacy for orders of
protection for victims accompanying police
officers to the complaint room.*

• **Brooklyn Criminal Court Reception
Center**

(718) 834-7472

*A safe, comfortable place in criminal court
where victims and witnesses may wait for
court appearances as well as short-term
counseling, court advocacy, and referrals.
Emergency housing relocation services
provided for intimidated victims and
witnesses.*

• **Brooklyn Family Court, Domestic
Violence Unit**

(718) 834-7440

*Short-term crisis counseling, court
advocacy, referrals for ongoing counseling,
shelters and other social service needs.*

• **Emergency Family Day Care**

(718) 439-1010.

• **Family Alliance**

(718) 827-4700

*Counseling, advocacy, and practical
services to families, especially those
experiencing domestic violence, to avoid
the placement of their children in foster
care.*

• **Family Violence Intervention Project**

(718) 834-7473

*Provides counseling and court advocacy to
domestic violence victims, as well as
referrals to shelter, public assistance, food,
etc.*

QUEENS

**Allen Women's Resource Center,
Domestic Violence Residential Program**
(718) 739-6200

*24-hour hotline, shelter,
individual/group/family counseling,
advocacy, referrals, housing, financial and
entitlements assistance, crisis, job training
and placement.*

American Chinese Women's Association,
(718) 961-8255

*Referral to legal services, help in obtaining
orders of protection, translation services.
Service in English and Chinese.*

Corona/Elmhurst Guidance Center

(718) 779-1600

*Long-term individual and group counseling,
advocacy, domestic violence support group.
Service in English and Spanish.*

**Crime Victim Assistance Unit, Pomonok
Neighborhood Center**

(718) 591-6060

*Crisis counseling, victim compensation
assistance, court-related services
(accompaniment, impact statements),
information and referrals, home visits, lock
replacements, advocacy.*

**Gustave Hartman YM/YWHA Transition
Center for Battered Women**

(718) 327-7660

*90-day emergency shelter/apartment living
for women and children, counseling for
women and children, referrals to housing,
job training, and placement. Service in
English, Spanish, Yiddish.*

**Jewish Board of Family and Children's
Services, Transition Center**

(718) 327-7660

*24-hour hotline (718-520-8045), shelter, day
care and counseling services for domestic
violence victims and their children, crisis
intervention. Service in Spanish, Hebrew,
Russian, Yiddish.*

**Korean Family Counseling and Research
Center**

(718) 321-2400

*Counseling, crisis intervention, translation in
court, legal services, placement in safe
Korean private homes, information/referral
service, drug/alcohol abuse program.
Service in English and Korean.*

**Legal Aid Society, Civil Division, Far
Rockaway Neighborhood Office**

(718) 337-4900

Legal Services for New York City

• South Jamaica Office, (718) 657-8611

• Legal Services for the Elderly in Queens,
(718) 897-2515

**Long Island Jewish Medical Center,
Abused Spouses Counseling Program**
(718) 470-7540

*Counseling, information and referrals,
support group.*

Main Street Legal Services, Battered Women's Rights Clinic, CUNY Law School

(718) 575-4300

Legal advice and representation. Service in English and Spanish.

Project Contact, Criminal Court
(718) 286-2968

Orientation to the criminal justice system, counseling, advocacy, support groups, court accompaniment, emergency shelter information and referrals. Service in English and Spanish.

Project Oasis
(718) 291-2555

Shelter for battered women.

Protective Services for Adults
(718) 262-3134

Intervention in domestic violence situations involving persons with physical or mental impairments. case management, counseling, home care services, psychiatric evaluations, help with orders of protection, referral for placement in shelters, etc. Service in English and Spanish, interpreters available for others.

Providence House III
(718) 739-1348

Shelter, crisis intervention, referrals to other services. Service in English and Spanish.

Queens County Bar Association, Queens Volunteer Lawyers Project
(718) 739-4100

Assistance in Family Court matters.

Queens Women's Network
(718) 657-6200

Domestic violence advocacy (legal and other), counseling, support groups, information and referral to shelters. Service in English and Spanish.

Victim Services, Queens Services

• **Alternatives to Violence, (718) 834-7471;** *Educational program for men who have violently abused their partners.*

• **Jamaica Community Office, (718) 291-2555;** *Support groups for victims of domestic violence, cash for essentials and emergencies, emergency housing transfers, emergency lock repair; restitution assistance, document replacement.*

• **Jackson Heights Crime Victims Center, (718) 899-1233;** *Counseling, advocacy, referral services. Service in Spanish, Haitian, Creole, French.*

• **Queens Criminal Court Reception Center, (718) 286-6083;** *Safe, comfortable place in criminal court where victims and witnesses may wait for court appearances. Short-term counseling, court advocacy and referrals, emergency housing relocation services for intimidated victims and witnesses. Service in English and Spanish.*

• **Queens Family Court, (718) 262-0202;** *Help negotiating the Family Court system, crisis intervention, counseling, advocacy for orders of protection, reception center for clients awaiting a court appearance, children's counseling program, supervised visitation program. Service in English and Spanish.*

Women Helping Women, Safe House
(718) 539-9111
90-day crisis shelter, referrals to other services.

STATEN ISLAND

Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, Center for the Prevention of Family Violence, Staten Island Office
(718) 761-9800
Crisis intervention, counseling, support services.

Legal Aid Society, Civil Division, Staten Island Neighborhood Office
(718) 273-6677.

Staten Island Women's Bar Association
(718) 273-7799
Legal referrals.

Victim Services, Staten Island Services

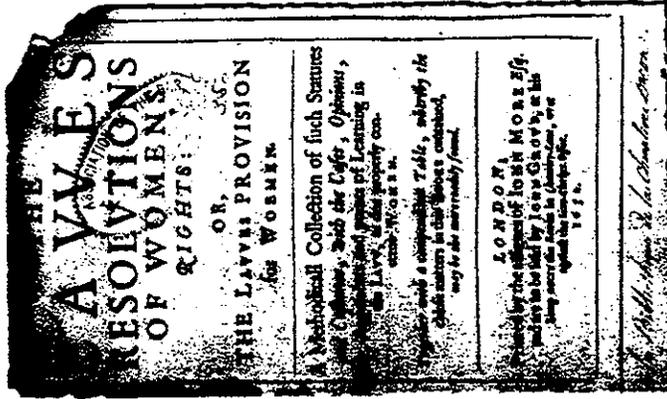
• **Staten Island Community Office, (718) 448-3118;** *Counseling, cash for essentials and emergencies, emergency housing transfers, emergency lock repair, restitution assistance, document replacement.*

• **Project Oasis Safe Homes, (718) 447-5454;** *Safe homes network for battered women and their children; counseling, parenting workshops, support groups, advocacy for other services.*

• **Staten Island Criminal Court, (718) 727-7555;** *Counseling, complaint room, reception center, reminder notifications, restitution.*

• **Staten Island Family Court Unit, (718) 447-3820;** *Assists domestic violence victims and their children on family offense proceedings, information and referral.*

The Rise of Women in the Legal Profession



We would like to acknowledge our gratitude and appreciation to the following organizations who have generously loaned documents to this exhibition:

- Association of the Bar of the City of New York
- Columbia University, Arthur W. Diamond Law Library
- New York County Clerk
- New York Law Institute
- New York University School of Law

In addition, we wish to thank the many judges and private individuals who have loaned photographs and materials from their collections.

**Committee of the Historical Records
of the New York County Clerk, Inc.**

Chair: Norman Goodman,
New York County Clerk

Curator: Whitney S. Bagnall, Librarian,
Columbia University School of Law

Carol Hope Arber	Judge, Civil Court of the City of New York
Bruce Abrams	Archivist, New York County Clerk
Gretchen Feltes	Librarian, New York University School of Law
Nancy Joseph	Librarian, New York Law Institute
James A. Rossetti	Chief Deputy, New York County Clerk
Patricia Ryan	Designer, N.Y.S. Office of Court Administration
Edith I. Spivack	Executive Assistant Corporation Counsel of the City of New York, <i>Emerita</i>
Richard Tuske	Librarian, Association of the Bar of the City of New York
Charles J. Tanenbaum	Attorney at Law
Joseph Van Nostrand	Chief Archivist, New York County Clerk
John Werner	Chief Clerk, Supreme Court, Civil, New York County

*Special thanks to the staff of the Office of Court Administration:
Department of Administrative Services:*

- Laura Wagley Ross, Assistant Deputy Chief Administrator
- Andy Onda, Deputy Director
- Zola Hill, Fred Ruscake, Training Services
- Ted Emmons: Photography



AM DELIGHTED
TO WELCOME THE
NEW YORK BAR AND PUBLIC
TO THIS EXHIBIT ON THE
RISE OF WOMEN IN THE
LEGAL PROFESSION, the second in a series of
legal history exhibitions to be presented in the
beautiful Rotunda of the New York County
Courthouse.

In New York State in particular, the rise of women in the profession has been remarkable. The New York Bar admitted its first woman, Kate Stoneham, in 1886. By 1962, my law school class of 300 had only ten women, but dramatic changes began in the 1970's. Today women outnumber men in many of New York's law schools, and comprise 29 percent of all lawyers nationally.

This Exhibit celebrates the careers of women of accomplishment in the judiciary, academics, government and private practice—many of them trailblazers. It includes archival material, memorabilia, photographs, manuscripts and more. I hope you find the Exhibit enjoyable and inspiring.

Judith S. Kaye
Chief Judge of the State of New York

The Rise of Women in the Legal Profession

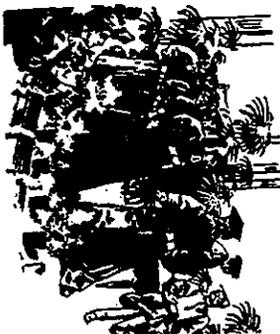
HERE'S NO SINGLE STORY, NO SINGLE CAREER, NO SINGLE EVENT THAT ILLUSTRATES THE WHOLE PICTURE OF WOMEN'S

ADVANCEMENT TO PROFESSIONAL ACCEPTANCE AND FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE LEGAL WORLD. Determined women made pathbreaking strides in the profession, but their gains were not easily consolidated or extended to other women without a struggle. In the seventeenth century colony of Maryland, for example, Margaret Brent successfully handled legal matters for the Governor, but she could not be made a voting member of the Maryland Assembly. In nineteenth century Iowa, Belle Mansfield read law in a law office and at home, but she was



Myra Bradwell

not admitted to practice until the state court ruled in 1869 that the "white male person" qualification for admission to the bar did not deny the right to females. In 1870, the U.S. Census reported that there were five women lawyers in the country; one of them was certainly Myra Bradwell, who had been denied admission to Illinois bar in 1869, a decision upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1873. Bradwell's subsequent career saw her establish *The Chicago Legal News* on a sound financial basis.



Graduation Exercise, Women's Law Club, New York University

University of Iowa leading the way through admission of women in 1869. In Washington, D.C., two enterprising lawyers, Ellen Spencer Mussey and Emma Gillett, founded the Washington College of Law in 1896 (now part of American University) to train both women and men for legal careers. Also during this decade New York University introduced a women's law class designed primarily to acquaint women with their rights rather than to educate them for the bar.

NEVERTHELESS, MILESTONES WERE PASSED as women became lawyers in ever-increasing numbers: in 1886, New York admitted its first woman lawyer; in 1899 the National Association of Women Lawyers was founded in New York City; in 1900 the U.S. Census recorded 1,010 women lawyers in the country; women lawyers were admitted to membership in the ABA in 1918; and women were given the right to vote by the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. Careers of individual women lawyers also began to progress as they

A REAL SHORTAGE OF OPENINGS FOR WOMEN as students in law schools did not help the situation. State universities were quicker to admit women law students than private law schools, with the



Ruth Bader Ginsburg

were given increasingly responsible roles in corporate practice or in government positions: Florence Ellinwood Allen of Ohio was appointed to the federal bench by Franklin Roosevelt in 1934; Soia Mentschikoff was the first woman to be made partner in a major Wall Street law firm; Bella Abzug was elected to the House in 1971; Sandra Day O'Connor was sworn into the U.S. Supreme Court in 1981, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg in 1993; and Janet Reno was appointed Attorney General in 1993.



Birdie Ansterdam

INSPIRATION FOR THIS EXHIBIT COMES FROM CHIEF JUDGE JUDITH S. KAYE (New York State's first woman Chief Judge), whose biographical article on Kate Stoneman (first woman admitted to the bar in New York State) and Birdie Ansterdam (first woman elected to the Municipal Court in New York County) have clearly demonstrated that the careers of early women lawyers are fruitful areas of research. This exhibit shows not only the high-profile successful women lawyers, but also those whose achievements are less well known but no less significant in providing career-building advice to the many women now in law school or considering law school. Today's women lawyers can become law professors, judges, corporation counselors, government officers, elected officials, and chief executives. Someday soon, one surely will become President.



Florence Allen (left) and her firm

Whitney S. Bagwell, Curator
Columbia University School of Law
Diamond Law Library

TO: JILL GOODMAN, COUNSEL, NEW YORK STATE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE
ON WOMEN IN THE COURTS

FROM: JACKIE GLASS, CO-CHAIR SUBCOMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
OF THE ANTI-BIAS COMMITTEE OF SUPREME COURT, NEW YORK
COUNTY, CIVIL BRANCH

RE: DOMESTIC AWARENESS MONTH PROGRAM

As you will, of course, remember we chose to make the court system's new official policy on domestic violence the focus of our annual October observation of domestic Violence Awareness Month. The program was designed to instruct court personnel on the history, necessity for and operation of the new policy. Attendance at the program, by all court employees, both judicial and non-judicial personnel as well as employees of the County Clerk's office, was mandatory, either at the live session, which you participated in, or at taped video sessions thereafter. We held the program in Room 300 and the attendance was exceptional, we estimate that well over 200 employees came to the program, representing all job categories. We will be running the video for those who did not attend the live session in smaller groups commencing shortly.

The program was entitled "Courthouse Policy on Domestic Violence: What You Need to Know" and was chaired by Justice Jacqueline Silberman. It consisted of four speakers. Charlotte Watson, Executive Director of the State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence ("OPDV") gave an overview of the problem of domestic violence and how it may impact the workplace. Robert Nicolas, Associate Counsel of OPDV discussed the various different policy provisions. Nancy Mangold, OCA Assistant Deputy Chief Administrator of Court Operations covered the court system's plans to implement the policy and you assisted with discussion in this area.

After the prepared remarks the speakers took questions from the floor, which sparked some provocative discussion. From the feedback I received, the employees' consciousness of the gravity of the problem had been raised, as evidenced by their continuing to debate the issues raised for several days following the program.

We also provided attendees with a packet of materials which included a copy of the Chief Judge's Proclamation, the press release, the policy, a flyer entitled "How to Talk with Someone Who Is Being Abused Guidelines for Co-Workers," and a New York City List of Domestic Violence Resources, which included phone numbers and descriptions of the services available from providers throughout New York City.

As we have done in the past few years, we have maintained a table in the rotunda of 60 Centre Street for the month of October that had materials on domestic violence which we obtained from

various organizations that assist victims. As in past years, we have found that the materials seem to fly off the table. The public passing through the rotunda to various places in the court seem to be drawn to the table and take the flyers, pamphlets and materials. This year we tried to obtain more bi-lingual materials so that we could provide help to those who did not read English.

We are presently working on putting together a forum on domestic violence across cultures, but the plans for this program have not been formalized. We are working with Sujata Warriier, the Director of Health of OPDV and hope to have something in place we think for ~~for~~ June.

cc: Justice Alice Schlesinger

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AS', is located to the right of the distribution list.

SURVIVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Thursday, October 14, 1999

1:00 p.m.

**Rotunda, State Supreme Court
60 Centre Street, New York City**

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Hon. Alice Schlesinger

**Justice, New York State Supreme Court
Chair, Anti-Bias Committee**

Guest Speakers

Liberty Aldrich

**Director, Domestic Violence Law Project at
Victims Services**

Beth Silverman-Yam

Clinical Director of the Sanctuary for Families

Arlene A. Wallace

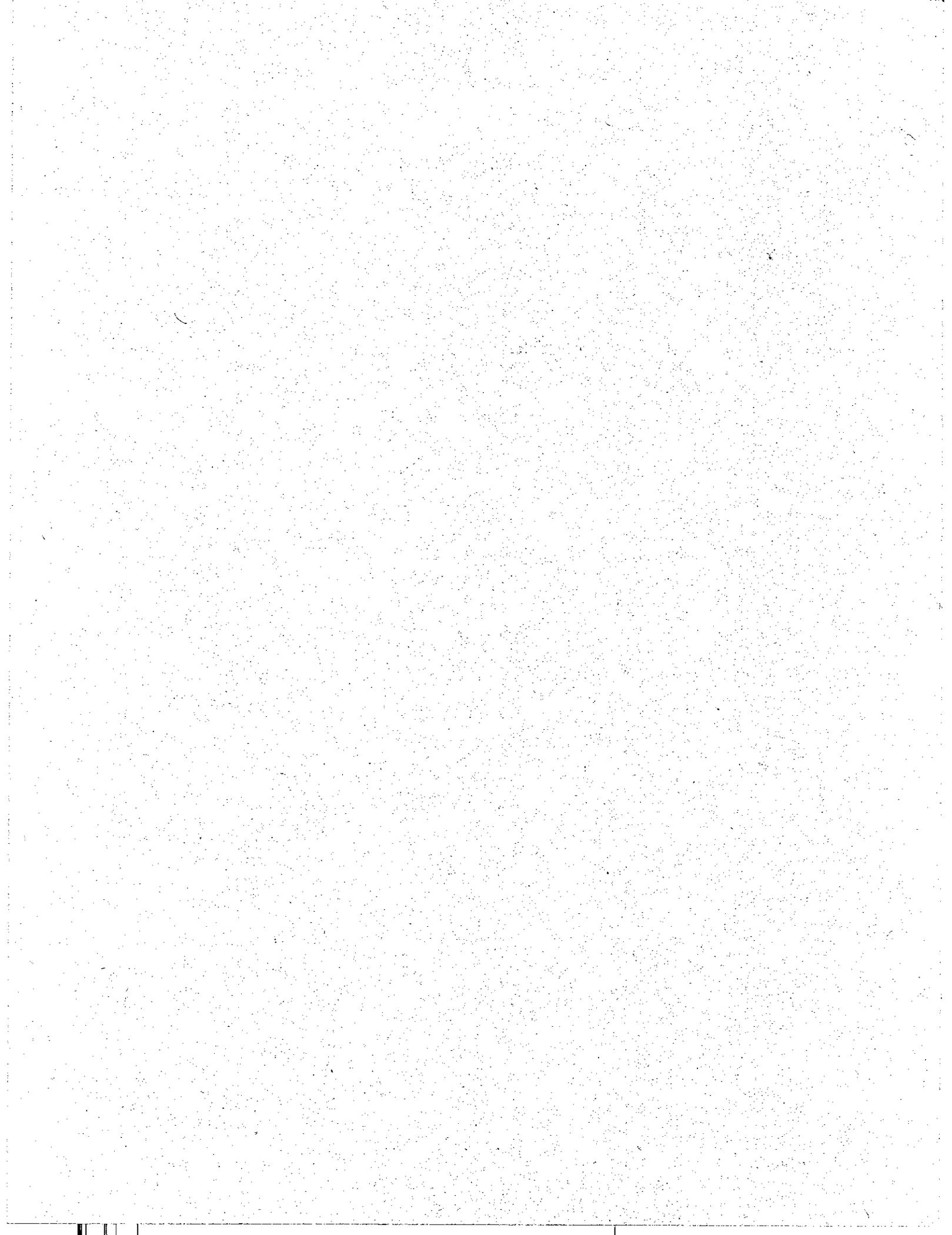
Associate Director, Dress For Success New York

**Sponsored by: Subcommittee on Domestic Violence, Anti-Bias Committee, State Supreme Court,
New York County**

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

Hon. Arlene Goldberg
Acting Justice, Supreme Court
100 Centre Street, Room 412
New York, New York 10013

Telepohne: (212)- 748-5100
Fax: (212) - 374-2579



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: BREAKING THE CYCLE
TOPIC: BATTERER'S PROGRAMS - DO THEY WORK?

Panel Discussion
Thursday, October 5, 2000
at 5:30 p.m.
100 Centre Street - Room 1517
(Central Jury Room)

Scheduled Speakers:

Charlotte A. Watson, Director of New York State Office for the
Prevention of Domestic Violence

Dr. Jack Sarmanian, Director of New York City Alternative
Assistance Program (NYCAAP)

Ted Bunch, Director of Safe Horizon's Alternatives to Violence (ATV)

Dr. Mary Ann Forgey, Fordham University's Graduate School of
Social Service

PRESENTED BY

Manhattan Supreme and Criminal Courts Committees on
Gender Bias and Gender Fairness

Refreshments will be served

ALL ARE WELCOME

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASES:
THE VICTIM - THE RELUCTANT WITNESS**

**Panel Discussion
Monday, October 30, 2000
at 1:15 p.m.
100 Centre Street - Room 450
(Jury Part 13 Courtroom)**

Scheduled Speakers:

Hon. Ruth Pickholz, Presiding Judge - Domestic Violence Trial Part,
New York County Criminal Court
Deborah Tuerkheimer, Assistant District Attorney, Family Violence and
Child Abuse Unit, New York County District Attorney's Office
Lucia Raiford, Director, Domestic Violence Unit, New York City Police
Department

PRESENTED BY

Manhattan Supreme and Criminal Courts Committees on
Gender Bias and Gender Fairness

Please bring your own lunch.
Coffee and Cookies will be served.

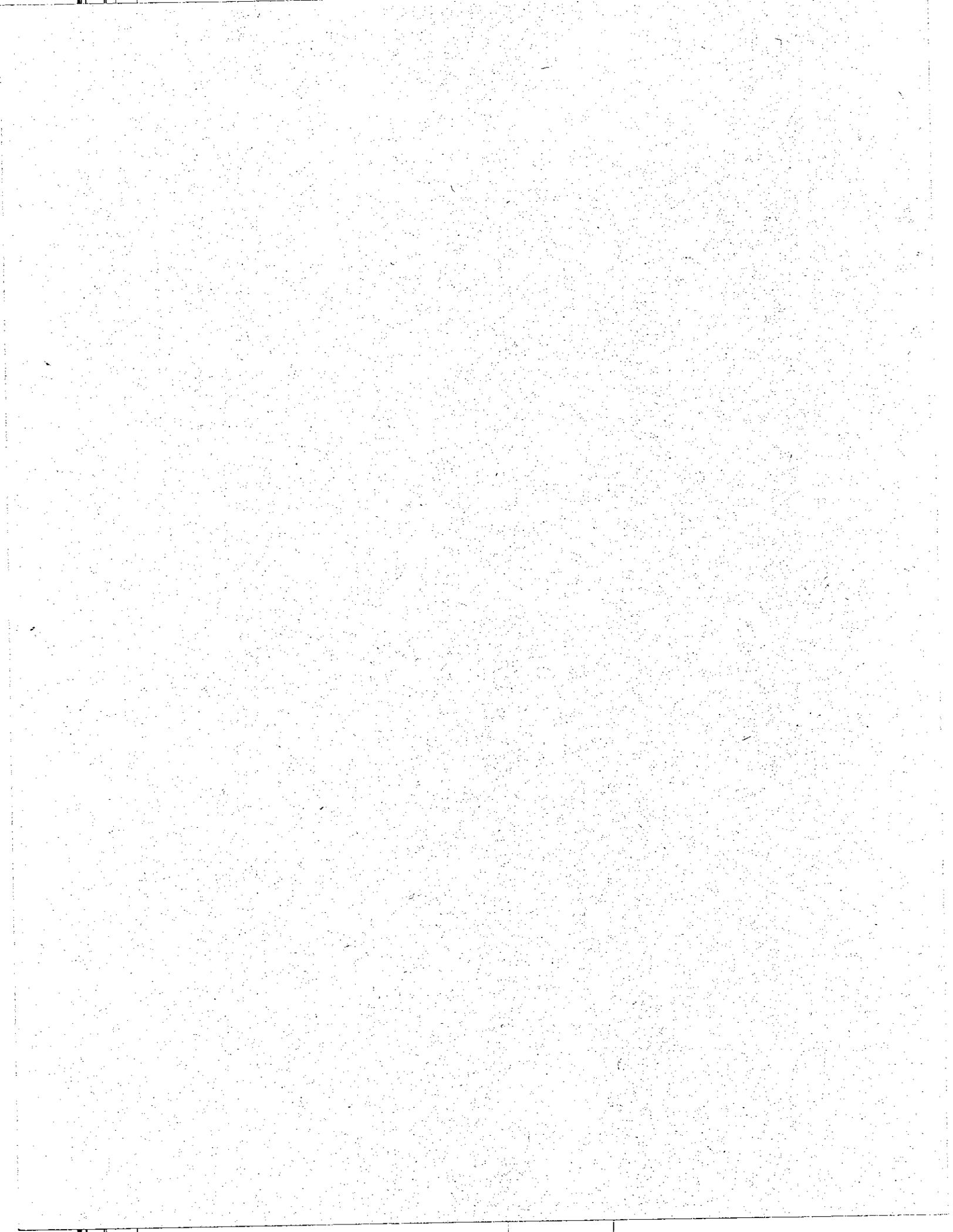
Bronx County Supreme Court Committee

Hon. Richard Lee Price
Acting Justice, Supreme Court

851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451

Telephone: (718) 590-3590

Fax: (718) 590-8914



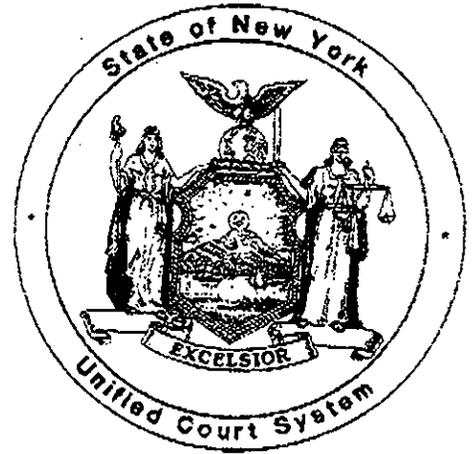
THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER BIAS COMMITTEE

AND

THE BRONX WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

HONORABLE LUIS A. GONZALEZ,
Administrative Judge

HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE, Chair



present the annual program for

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Thursday, March 15, 2001

12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Veterans' Memorial Hall, Bronx Supreme Court

Honorees

HON. GLORIA DAVIS

Assemblywoman, 79th A.D.

HON. BETTY WEINBERG ELLERIN

Associate Judge, Appellate Division, First Department

LENORE KRAMER, ESQ.

Kramer & DeVries, LLP

LORRAINE CORTES-VAZQUEZ

President, Hispanic Federation

Program Co-Sponsors

Association of Black Women Attorneys * Black Bar Association of Bronx County * Bronx Borough President * Bronx County Bar Association * Bronx County Clerk * Court Deli * Metropolitan Women's Bar Association * National Hispanic Prosecutors Association * Network of Bar Leaders * Puerto Rican Bar Association

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

If you plan to attend please R.S.V.P. to Maria Rivero (718) 590-2258,
Earnestine Glover (718) 590-3961 or Josephine Bastone (718) 590-3758.

Supreme Court
Of the
State of New York



**TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER BIAS COMMITTEE
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451**

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

HON. LUISA GONZALEZ
Administrative Judge

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Miriam Ajers
Tania Antero
Josephine M. Bastone
Lucille M. Barbaro
Hon. Peggy Berheim
Terr S. Blank
Major J. Mark Bodde
Michael K. Burke
Helen Corporan
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Imuly Sanchez
Inda A. Sark
Ara Tremis
Addeline Bigelow
Hon. Edgar G. Walker
Van Wilson

February 23, 2001

Hon. Luis A. Gonzalez
Administrative Judge
Twelfth Judicial District
851 Grand Concourse, sixth floor
Bronx, New York 10451

Dear Justice Gonzalez:

As you are aware, for several months the Gender Bias Committee has been concerned with the procedure female court officers must follow when a female civilian is remanded from court to the custody of the Department of Correction. Unlike the procedure for male court officers, who are able to escort male civilians to whatever entry point is closest to their assigned courtroom, female court officers are required by the Department of Correction to deliver these people to the fourth floor holding area. This means that the female court officer must either escort the unsearched female through the public hallways or enter Corrections on a particular floor and travel through the D.O.C. area to the fourth floor before a correction officer will accept custody and search the new prisoner. Obviously, the first option creates a potentially dangerous situation for the court officer and the public, and both options keep the female officer away from her assigned court for as much as an hour, thereby compromising the proper security and functioning of that court part. It should be noted that female prisoners are picked up and dropped off at the Corrections port closest to each courtroom; this problem only obtains when a female is taken into custody from the street.

In investigating this problem the Gender Bias Committee learned that the practice was initiated some years ago as an "accommodation" to the Department of Correction when there was an apparent shortage of female correction officers in our building. It is believed that no such staffing shortage currently exists for D.O.C., yet all attempts by the Committee and, ultimately, your good offices, to end this procedure have been unsuccessful to date. The

Hon. Luis A. Gonzalez
February 28, 2001

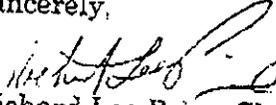
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Committee is at a loss to understand why the situation persists. It is not only inappropriate for female court officers to be performing such additional duties, which male court officers are not required to perform, but it may also be a violation of the terms of these court officers' employment and could unjustly subject the court system to criticism for a purely Corrections problem.

Knowing that you share the Committee's concern we write to seek your further help in resolving this situation. We believe that, under your guidance, a satisfactory way to correct this inequity could be decided upon collectively between Corrections, the court officers, and Supreme Court.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard Lee Price, Chair

cc: Hon. John P. Collins



TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER BIAS COMMITTEE
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

HON. LUIS A GONZALEZ
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

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Tania Antero
Josephine M. Bastone
Lucille M. Barbato
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Terri S. Blank
Major J. Mark Bodde
Michael K. Burke
Helen Corporan
Maria Cortese
Hon. Tandra Dawson
Hon. Marian Doherty
Hon. Laura Douglas
Darlene Dove
Sheila Fernerman
Hon. Anita Florio
Earnestine Glover
Hon. Ariene H. Hahn
Hattie Hedgepeth
Veronica Hedrington
Marilyn Israel
Saundra Jefferson
Esther Kelly
Suzanne Kronenfeld
Marjorie Lesh
Ruth Litsky
Ann Lynch
Hon. Sallie Manzanet
Hon. La Tia W. Martin
Theresa McDermott
Susan McPartland
Hon. Donna M. Mills
Niisa Moreno
Suzanne Nentwich
Hon. Barbara Newman
Tracy Pardo
Maria Rivero
Gayle P. Roberts
Hon. Norma Ruiz
Emily Sanchez
Linda A. Stark
Lara Trems
Madeline Vigelow
Hon. Edgar G. Walker
Ann Wilson

MEMORANDUM

TO: HON. BETTY WEINBERG ELLERIN

FROM: AJSC RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR

DATE: JANUARY 17, 2001

RE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MONTH REPORT



I submit herewith a report concerning our committee's activities for October 2000 from our Subcommittee Chair Earnestine Glover.

Ms. Glover did an outstanding job in putting the events together and presenting excellent programs.

One additional happening was our Food and Clothing Drive which benefitted Theresa's Haven which ran on October 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27. This drive was chaired by Josephine M. Bastone, Esq. who chairs the Subcommittee on these drives. Once again large amounts were collected for the victims of Domestic Violence.

RLP:bar
Enclosure

cc: Hon. Luis A. Gonzalez, Administrative Judge

SURROGATE'S COURT
BRONX COUNTY-STATE OF NEW YORK
851 GRAND CONCOURSE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10451

LEE L. HOLZMAN
JUDGE



MICHAEL L. PRISCO
CHIEF CLERK
EARNESTINE GLOVER
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

MEMORANDUM

TO: JUDGE RICHARD LEE PRICE
FROM: EARNESTINE GLOVER 
RE: ANNUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS
DATE: JANUARY 8, 2001

In the month of October 2000 the Gender Bias Committee, Chaired by the Hon. Richard Lee Price, sponsored and participated in several programs. We took the suggestion of Judge Ellerin and other members of our committee to make this month beneficial to the public and the employees of the Twelfth Judicial District.

The National Domestic Violence Awareness Day Committee Chaired by Earnestine Glover, Deputy Chief Clerk of the Bronx Surrogate Court, Tania Antero, Josephine M. Bastone, Esq., Madeline Bigelow, Helen Corporan, Darlene Dove, Susan McPartland, Suzanne Nentwich, and Hon. Barbara Newman, put together programs to educate and inspire employees and others regarding domestic violence and steps that can be taken to avoid it and where to go for assistance.

The American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Walk on October 15, 2000 produced 28 volunteer walkers and we raised about \$1,500.00.

Our program held on October 24, 2000, titled National Domestic Violence Awareness Month "Work Place Education Day," was a huge success.

The Domestic Violence Walk on Saturday, October 28, 2000 thirty to forty walkers volunteered.

Speakers of the program were Nancy Mangold, Director of Court Operation, Madeline Bigelow, Esq., and Elisa Koenderman, Bureau Chief of the Bronx District Attorney Office. Nancy Mangold spoke about the new Domestic Violence Policy of the Unified Court System.

Annual Domestic Violence Programs

Jan. 8, 2001

Page 2

We also held a Presentation on the Bronx Felony Domestic Violence Court on October 30, 2000. This Forum included the Hon. Ira Globerman, Presiding Justice of the Bronx Felony Domestic Violence Court, Alicia O'Hare, Resource Coordinator, and Peggy Grauwiler, Project Director of Bronx Felony Domestic Violence Court.

The Domestic Violence Subcommittee feels that these are some of the Projects the Gender Bias Committee should continue to further the awareness and someday eliminate Domestic Violence completely.

EG:bar

**THE BRONX COUNTY
GENDER BIAS COMMITTEE**
HONORABLE LUIS A. GONZALEZ,
Administrative Judge
HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE, Chair



presents our annual program for
National Domestic Violence Awareness Month
“Work Place Education Day”

Tuesday, October 24, 2000
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
Courtroom 600

<u>Prayer</u>	MR. JASON PHILBERT, Supreme Court
<u>Anthem</u>	MR. FRANK PALOMBO, Bronx Borough President's Office
<u>Welcome & Opening Remarks</u>	HON. LUIS A. GONZALEZ, Administrative Judge
<u>Proclamation</u>	HON. FERNANDO FERRER, Bronx Borough President
<u>Moderator</u>	JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ., Associate Court Attorney, Supreme Court, Bronx County
<u>“Domestic Violence Policy of the Unified Court System”</u>	MS. NANCY MANGOLD, Director of Court Operations
<u>“Safety First”</u>	MADELINE BIGELOW, ESQ., Sanctuary for Families
<u>“Domestic Violence/ Prosecution”</u>	ELISA KOENDERMAN, Bureau Chief, Bronx District Attorney
<u>Closing Remarks</u>	HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, Chair, Twelfth Judicial District Gender Bias Committee

Program Co-Sponsors

Black Bar Association of Bronx County * Bronx Borough President * Bronx County Bar Association * Bronx County Clerk * Court
Deli * Metropolitan Women's Bar Association * National Hispanic Prosecutors Association * Network of Bar Leaders * Puerto Rican
Bar Association * Women in the Law Committee, New York State Bar Association * Women's Rights Committee, New York County
Lawyers' Association * Bronx Civil Court * Bronx Criminal Court * Bronx Family Court * Bronx Surrogate's Court

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

If you plan to attend please R.S.V.P. Earnestine Glover (718) 590-3961 or Josephine Bastone (718) 590-3758.

TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
GENDER BIAS COMMITTEE
851 Grand Concourse
Bronx, New York 10451



HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE
Chair

HON. LUIS A GONZALEZ
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Miriam Alers
Tania Andira
Josephine M. Bastone
Lucille M. Barbato
Hon. Peggy Berheim
Terri S. Blank
Major J. Mark Bodde
Michael K. Burke
Helen Corporan
Maria Cortese
Tandra Dawson
Hon. Tandra Dawson
Hon. Marian Doherty
Hon. Laura Douglas
Darlene Dove
Sheila Feinerman
Hon. Anita Florio
Earnestine Glover
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
Hattie Hedgepeth
Veronica Hedrington
Marilyn Israel
Saundra Jefferson
Esther Kelly
Suzanne Kronenfeld
Marjorie Lesch
Ruth Litsky
Ann Lynch
Hon. Sallie Manzanet
Hon. La Tia W. Martin
Theresa McDermott
Susan McPartland
Hon. Donna M. Mills
Niisa Moreno
Suzanne Nentwich
Hon. Barbara Newman
Tracy Pardo
Maria Rivero
Gayle P. Roberts
Norma Ruiz
Emily Sanchez
Linda A. Stark
Lara Treinis
Madeline Vigelow
Hon. Edgar G. Walker
Ann Wilson

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Lessons Learned in Year One:
A Presentation of the Bronx Felony Domestic Violence Court
Monday, October 30, 2000
1:00-2:00 p.m.
Courtroom 621

Peggy Grauwiler.....Development of the Domestic Violence Court
Project Director

Hon. Ira Globerman.....First Year Success; Plan for Year Two
Presiding Justice

Alicia O'Hare.....Role of the Resource Coordinator
Resource Coordinator

Hon. Richard Lee Price.....Closing Remarks

THE BRONX COUNTY GENDER BIAS COMMITTEE

- ANNOUNCES -

A FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE TO BENEFIT THERESA'S HAVEN

DATES: OCTOBER 23, 24, 25, 26, AND 27, 2000

DROP OFF SITES: SUPREME COURT - 614(EXECUTIVE OFFICES)
CRIMINAL COURT - ROOM 111
FAMILY COURT - ROOM 8-10
HOUSING COURT - 7TH FLOOR STAFF LOUNGE
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

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) 590 - 3758
CRIMINAL COURT:	SUZANNE NENTWICH	(718) 590 - 2858
FAMILY COURT:	TRACY PARDO	(718) 590 - 3319
DISTRICT ATTORNEY BLDG.:	MARIA RIVERO, ESQ.	(718) 590 - 2258
HOUSING COURT:	UCO THERESA McDERMOTT	(718) 466 - 3102

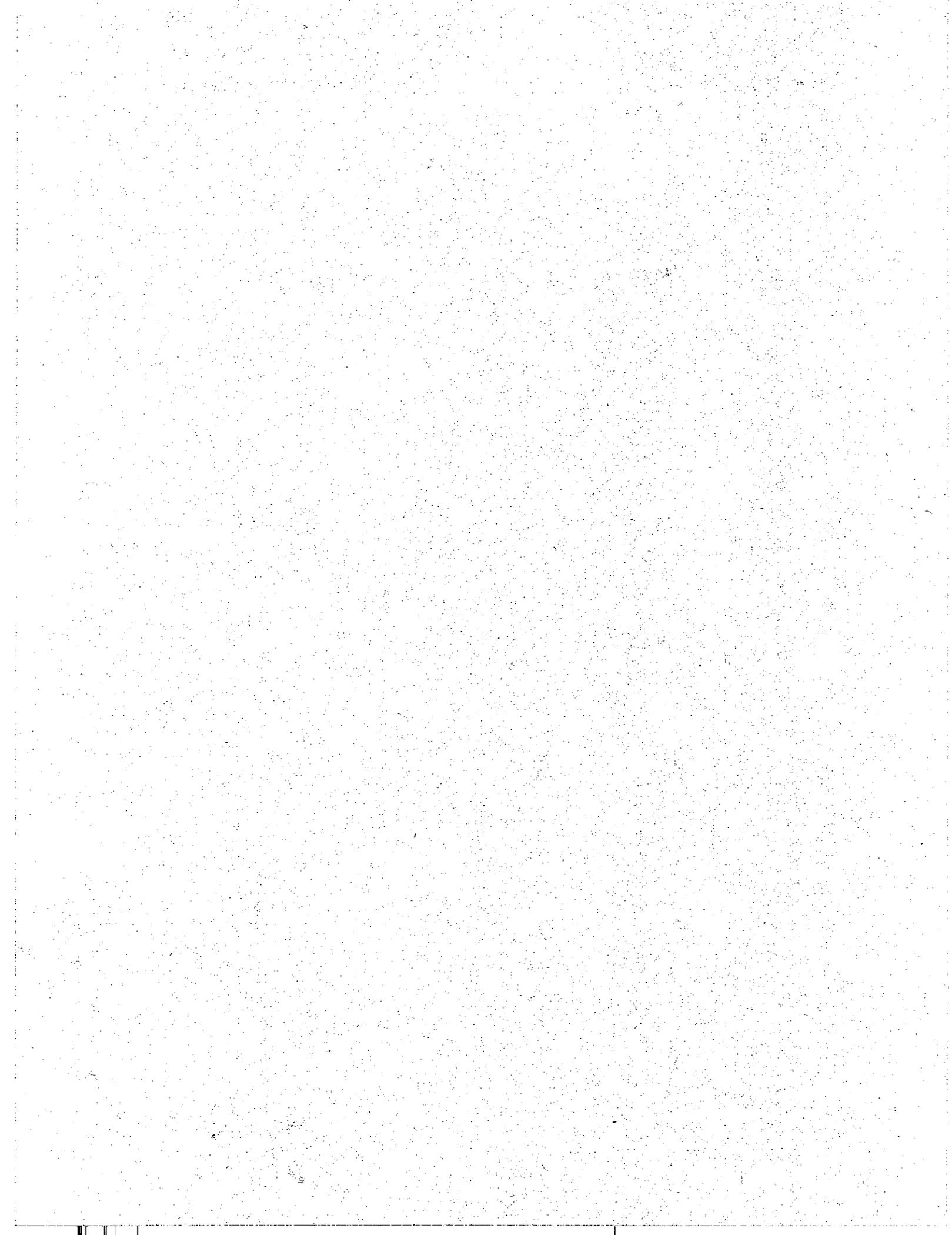


Queens County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Sheri Roman
Justice, Supreme Court
125-01 Queens Blvd.
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Telephone: (718) 520-4416

Fax: (718) 520-2236



Supreme Court
of the
State of New York



SHERI S. ROMAN
JUSTICE

CLERKING
125-01 48/28th BLDG.
NEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11405

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. Betty Weinberg Elerin, Chairperson
New York State Judicial Committee
on Women in the Courts

FROM: Hon. Sheri S. Roman, Chairperson *SR*
Queens County Supreme Court
Gender Fairness Committee

DATE: November 13, 2000

RE: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Programs

Queens County presented three luncheon programs to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Two sessions were conducted in the Kew Gardens Courthouse and the other at the Jamaica Courthouse. On Monday, October 16, 2000, and Monday, October 23, 2000, the program was held in the Kew Gardens Courtroom 190. On Tuesday, October 17th, the program was held in Jamaica's Boardroom. Robert K. Passonno, Domestic Violence Program Administrator for the State of New York Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, was the guest speaker for these sessions. He addressed issues generated by the 1997 "Primary Physical Aggressor Law."

Victoria Lutz, Esq., Executive Director of the Pace University School of Law's Women's Justice Center, was the guest speaker at our October 23rd presentation. This session focused on the nature of "stalking" and the recent New York Stalking Legislation. Pace University School of Law awarded Continuing Legal Education

- continue -

credit to attorneys attending this session. Transportation was provided to enable Jamaica Courthouse participants to attend this Kew Gardens seminar.

We approximated an overall attendance of 200 participants; including a wide range of O.C.A. employees, attorneys, community members and members of the general public.

In addition, information tables containing approximately 15 sets of domestic violence pamphlets, displayed in the rotunda of Jamaica, Long Island City, and Kew Gardens Courthouses, were maintained throughout the month of October.

I would like to obtain a greater number of brochures in languages other than English, and would appreciate any suggestions.

SSR:tw

NEWSDAY (Queens edition)
Thursday, March 1, 2001
p. A31, col. 3

MANHATTAN
Rockefeller Drug Laws

The war on drugs and its impact on families, communities, individuals and the nation will be the focus of a forum, to be held today, on the Rockefeller Drug Laws. The Rev. Calvin Butts, president of the city's Council of Churches; Bishop James McCarthy of the Archdiocese of New York and State Assemb. Jeffrion Aubry (D-Coronal, chairman of the Assembly's Corrections Committee, are panelists.

Actor Danny Glover and Karina vanden Heuvel, editor of The Nation, will be moderators. Robert Gangi, executive director of The Correctional Association of New York, and Ron Daniels, executive director of The Center for Constitutional Rights, will make statements. The forum is co-sponsored by Constitutional Rights group; Correctional Association of New York; New York Society for Ethical Culture, The Nation Institute and the Women's City Club. It's at 7 p.m., Society for Ethical Culture, 2 W. 64th St. Admission, free.

NY LAW JOURNAL
Thursday, March 1, 2001
p. 1, col. 3

The Queens County Women's Bar Association, in recognition of Women's History Month, will honor Retired Court of Claims Judge Joan O'Dwyer, the first woman appointed to the Queens County Criminal Court, at its "Judiciary Night" on March 13 at 5:30 p. m., Queens County Civil Court, 89-17 Sutphin Blvd.

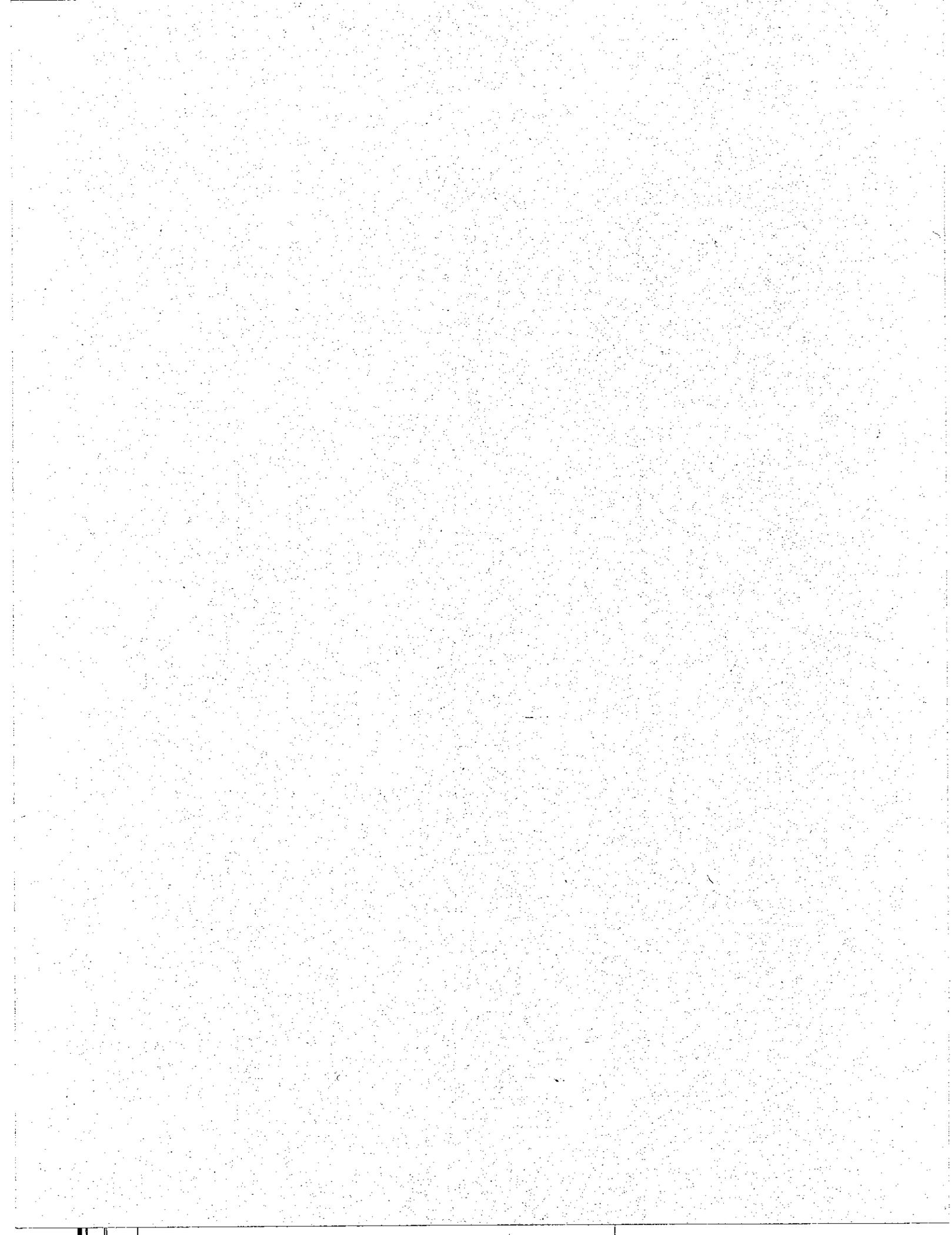


Brooklyn Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. John Leventhal
Justice, Supreme Court
360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Telephone: (718) 643-8490

Fax: (718) 643-





Supreme Court Kings County

360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201
Tel: (718) 643-8490

Chairperson
Hon. John M. Leventhal

Members
Hon. Michelle Weston Patterson

Hon. Albert Tomei

Hon. Jo-Ann Ferdinand

Hon. Gloria Dabiri

Hon. Melvin Barasch

Hon. Matthew D'Emic

Hon. John Leone

Hon. Richard Rivera

Hon. Diana Johnson

Joseph Cannella

Capt. Luz Bryan

Izetta Johnson

Donna Farrell

Judith McMahan

Charles M. Troia

Iris Cross

Roderick E. Randall

Brenda Pantell

Karen Boyd-Gillen

Nancy Porter Hally

Jeanette Mercedes

Linda C. Hutcherson

Felicia A. Carter

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. Betty Ellerin, Chair
New York State Committee on Women in the Courts

FROM: Justice John M. Leventhal, Chair
Gender Fairness Committee, Second Judicial District

RE: Activities April, 2000 - March, 2001.

DATE: April 6, 2001

The Second Judicial District had a busy year in scheduling and holding various programs.

BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY

This program involves the contribution of many court personnel throughout the building. Hon. Albert Tomei is Chair of the "Bring Your Child to Work Day Subcommittee". They have in the past had mock trials and essay contents with awards given. Also an opportunity was afforded the children to take photos in robes on the bench with a personalized nameplate e.g., "Hon. Cindy Jones".

Last year we varied the program in order to have a fresh look for the children who have been coming for the past few years. The year's program was presented on April 25, 2000 instead of the originally scheduled day of April 27, 2000, as it was one of the religious days of Passover. A report was previously filed (see enclosed). This year's program will be held on April 26, 2001.

SARA BUEL, ESQ.

On May 4, 2000, Sara Buel, Esq., a pioneer in prosecuting DV cases and a charismatic leader in the field, came to Brooklyn to speak to our expanding partnership. She recharged everyone's batteries and revived our spirits. The cost was paid for by an action plan grant secured through the National Council of Juvenile and Family Courts Judges.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

A number of programs were run at the Courthouse and the local bar association (CLE). In addition, a job securing/training program for victims was held at the courthouse. This was made possible through the cooperation of various public agencies, not for profit corporations and private enterprise. All activities were done with an eye to reach out to the community and press. This was consistent with Judge Kaye's outreach initiative. A full report was previously provided (see enclosed).

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

This year four lunchtime programs were held at the courthouse in the Central Jury Room. Seven judges helped to chair these programs.

On March 7, 2001, Helen Traux, a financial consultant at Solomon Smith Barney, talked about "Empowering Yourself, How to Manage your Finances." This program was chaired by Judges Margaret Cammer and Anne Feldman.

On March 13, 2001, Professor Peggy Cooper Davis spoke about the Constitution and the Family. She talked about abolitionist managers and feminists of the early 1800's. This event was chaired by Judge Priscilla Hall with the help of Judge Yvonne Lewis.

On March 21, 2001, a program centered on Women's Health Issues was held. Health professionals, Jean Torrell-Hughes, R.N. and Fran Cartwright Ahearne, R.N., Ph.D., talked about cancer and other health issues as they relate to women. This was chaired by Judges Barbara Panepinto and JoAnn Ferdinand.

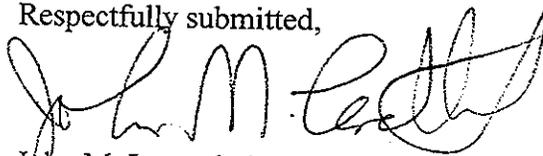
On March 29, 2001, State Elections Commissioner Evelyn Acquilla and City Elections Commissioner Nancy Mottola-Schacher delivered a lecture and led a discussion on "Women's Suffrage". This event was chaired by Judges Gloria Colin Aronin and Marsha Steinhardt.

Enclosed are flyers and the attendant press announcements and coverage for all events.

The Job Readiness event held during Domestic Awareness Month was repeated with great success. Thirty-three women, all victims of DV, participated.

Please note that the Hon. John Leone chairs the Gender Fairness Committee in Richmond County, which is part of the Second Judicial District. There are parallel programs occurring in Richmond that mirror those occurring in Brooklyn. (See enclosed.)

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Leventhal
Chair, Gender Fairness Committee
Second Judicial District

JML:lch
Enc.



Supreme Court Kings County

360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201
Tel: (718) 643-8490

Chairperson
Hon. John M. Leventhal

Members

Hon. Michelle Weston Patterson

Hon. Albert Tomei

Hon. Jo-Ann Ferdinand

Hon. Gloria Dabiri

Hon. Melvin Barasch

Hon. Matthew D'Emic

Hon. John Leone

Joseph Cannella

Capt. Luz Bryan

Izetta Johnson

Donna Farrell

Judith McMahan

Iris Cross

Guy J. Mangano, Jr.

Roderick E. Randall

Brenda Pantell

Karen Boyd-Gillen

Nancy Porter Hally

Jeanette Mercedes

Noreen Soto

Linda Hutcherson

Maritza Maldonado

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. Betty Ellerin, Chair
New York State Committee on Women in the Courts

FROM: Hon. John M. Leventhal, Chair
Gender Fairness Committee, Second Judicial District

RE: "Bring Your Child to Work Day" April 25, 2000.

DATE: May 3, 2000

The "Bring Your Child to Work" subcommittee and volunteers presented our seventh annual program this past April 25, 2000. It was a great success... the kids all had a great time.

We received donations of handouts for the children from several sources. The United States Supreme Court, Chase Manhattan Bank, CourtTV, Judges Judy and Joe Brown, the Brooklyn Marriott and the Unified Court System are just a few who sent donations.

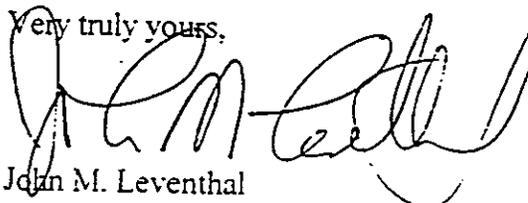
We had a great number of court personnel who volunteered their time and enthusiasm to make the program the best it could be. (See attached letter.) Hon. Albert Tomei is the Chair of the "Bring Your Child to Work Day" subcommittee. One part of the program consisted of presentations and a question-and-answer period conducted by various court staff, such as Supreme Court Officers, Stenographers, Interpreters, Court Attorneys, and the Computer Room staff were just a few of the job titles represented. We also had the children photographed in a judge's robe with a personalized nameplate. Included is a partial package of the hand-out folder we presented to the kids. There was also a separate program for the youngsters of ages 7 and 8, which included a demonstration of the magnetometers, as well as a tour of the Court House facilities. The older children attended a "Scared Straight" program in the Drug Treatment Court arranged by Judge Jo Ann Ferdinand. Judge Gloria Dabiri talked to the children about women in the law and society and how and where the children should set their goals and aspirations. The entire event was covered by the local Brooklyn newspaper the "Daily Bulletin". (See attachments.)

Justice Tomei as Chair of the "Bring Your Child to Work Day" subcommittee once again kept the focus on the task at hand, addressed the assemblage of children in your stead, and ran one part of the program where various court employees described to the children the type of valuable work they perform in and for the court. Judge Ferdinand ran a terrific "scared straight" program in the Drug Treatment Court. Judge Dabiri talked to the children about women in society and the law and how and where to set their goals and aspirations.

Last but not least, are the Committee members themselves who worked so long and hard over the past two months to present a stimulating, interesting, and fun day for all. Capt. Luz Bryan, Jeanette Mercedes and Linda Hutcherson deserve special and separate recognition.

Thank you again for your help in presenting this program. We hope we may call on you and your chambers for our next year's program.

Very truly yours,



John M. Leventhal
Chair, Gender Fairness Committee
Kings County

JML:lch

cc: All our wonderful volunteers



Supreme Court Kings County

360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201
Tel: (718) 643-8490

Chairperson
Hon. John M. Leventhal

May 4, 2000

Members

Hon. Michelle Weston Patterson

Hon. Albert Tomei

Hon. Jo-Ann Ferdinand

Hon. Gloria Dabiri

Hon. Melvin Barasch

Hon. Matthew D'Emic

Hon. John Leone

Joseph Cannella

Capt. Luz Bryan

Izetta Johnson

Donna Farrell

Judith McMahon

Iris Cross

Roderick E. Randall

Brenda Pantell

Karen Boyd-Gillen

Nancy Porter Hally

Jeanette Mercedes

Linda C. Hutcherson

Felicia A. Carter

Honorable Michael L. Pesce
Administrative Judge
Second Judicial District
360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201-3701

RE: "Bring Your Child to Work Day"
April 25, 2000.

Dear Judge Pesce:

As Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee of the Supreme Court, Kings County, I would like to inform you of the many wonderful and caring volunteers who worked so hard to make "Bring Your Child to Work Day" the success it was. Those who so graciously volunteered their time and effort were:

Judge Michelle Weston Patterson
Judge Albert Tomei
Judge Jo-Ann Ferdinand
Judge Gloria Dabiri
Judge Melvin Barasch
Judge John Leone
Judge Frank Egitto
Joseph Cannella
Capt. Luz Bryan
Izetta Johnson
Donna Farrell
Judith McMahon
Iris Cross
Guy J. Mangano Jr.
Roderick E. Randall
Brenda Pantell
Thomasena Patterson

Karen Boyd-Gillen
Nancy Porter Hally
Jeanette Mercedes
Felicia A. Carter
Sandy Valles
Mercedes Fernandez
Nina Kurtz
Charmaine Johnson
Sara Luca
John Fiumara
Rita Baron
Steven Skrzypczak
Cynthia Roberson
Neal Barkan
Elliot Raines
Chris Silber

SCO Edward Mason
SCO Mario Belluomo
Connie Bajohr
Mary Jo Emmine
Mirna St. Louis-McEachern
Sammy Lopez
Chavez Sanchez
Kenneth Letts
Linda Sigman
Phyllis Price
William Cardenuto
Robin Sheares
Pam Emerson
Lt. Ernest Owens
Betty Gonzalez
Leroy West Spicer
Janice Flores

Please note that Judge John Leone held a parallel program in Richmond County.
Enclosed is a copy of his report.

Respectfully submitted.

John M. Leventhal
Chair, Gender Fairness Committee
Second Judicial District

JML:lch
Enc.

HON. JOHN M. LEVENTHAL AND HON. MATTHEW D'EMIC

and

THE BROOKLYN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT

invite you to:

A Presentation By

SARAH BUEL, ESQ.

**"Domestic Violence and Coordinated Community Response:
Promising Practices Around the Country"**

Thursday, May 4, 2000

1:00 p.m.

at

Brooklyn Supreme Court

360 Adams Street

Brooklyn, NY 11201

Second Floor, Room 274

Ms. Buel has spent the past 22 years working with battered women. She is currently a Clinical Professor at the University of Texas School of Law, where she started and co-directs the Domestic Violence Clinic. Previously, she was a prosecutor with Norfolk County District Attorney's Office in Quincy, MA, where she helped to establish their domestic violence and juvenile programs.

Directions: By Subway, take the N or R to Court Street, the 4, 5 or 6 to Borough Hall or the A, C or F to Jay Street.



Supreme Court Kings County

360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, New York 11201
Tel: (718) 643-8490

Chairperson
Hon. John M. Leventhal

Members

Hon. Michelle Weston Patterson
Hon. Albert Tomei
Hon. Jo-Ann Ferdinand
Hon. Gloria Dabiri
Hon. Melvin Barasch
Hon. Matthew D'Emic
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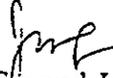
To: Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Chair, New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the
Courts

Hon. Juanita Bing Newton
Chair, Year 2000 Outreach And Education Program

Hon. William Thompson
Co-Chair, New York State Committee to Promote Public Trust
and Confidence in the Legal System

Hon. Michael L. Pesce
Administrative Judge, Second Judicial District

Hon. Cheryl Chambers, Chair
Year 2000 Outreach Committee to Promote Public Trust and
Confidence in the Legal System, Second Judicial District

From: John M. Leventhal, Chair 
Gender Fairness Committee of the Second Judicial District

Re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Date: November 14, 2000

This year the Second Judicial District scheduled events for Domestic
Violence Awareness Month in keeping with the aims of the Year 2000 Community
Outreach Initiative. Consonant with the focus articulated by the Outreach
Committee while adhering to the District's longstanding commitment to heighten

public awareness to the issues of domestic violence, the Hon. Matthew D'Emic, Chair of the DV Awareness Subcommittee, spearheaded the effort of the Gender Fairness Committee to plan and to effectuate worthy programs "devoted to increasing public and workplace awareness, promoting education and sensitivity to Domestic Violence through roundtable discussions, media events and partnerships with local governments, bar associations and appropriate not-for-profit organizations."

Although not formally part of the activities of the Gender Fairness Committee, Justices D'Emic, Leventhal and Daniel Angelillo from Westchester County, along with Emily Sack, Esq. (one of the Directors from the Center for Court Innovation), a prosecutor and a victim advocate from Kings County as well as a grants' administrator from the Division of Criminal Justice Services made two different presentations in Anaheim, California during the first week of October at the Tenth Annual National Conference on Domestic Violence sponsored by the National College Of District Attorneys. Justice Leventhal also was the keynote speaker at the Ceremonial Dedication of the Suffolk County Domestic Violence Court on October 6, 2000.

On October 11, 2000 a terrific program was held in the courthouse in support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Hon. Charles J. Hynes, District Attorney of Kings County, a witness to and victim of domestic violence was the Keynote Speaker. "My Voice Theater," young high school students who are all survivors of domestic violence performed a number of thought provoking skits portraying various scenes of domestic abuse. P.J. Gibson, Associate Professor of English at the John College of Criminal Justice who is also a playwright and poet, gave a most powerful rendition of a poem written by her entitled "How Shall We Lighten Their Loads?" At the end of the entire program, it was apparent that the members of the audience were all touched by what they had just seen and heard.

On October 17 and 31 at lunchtime, two award winning documentary films were shown, namely "Defending Our Lives" and "Faces of Fear." At the conclusion of each of the films a short discussion was held, led by the two Resource Coordinators of the Brooklyn Domestic Violence Courts.

On October 20 an employment preparation program for victims/survivors of domestic violence entitled "Job Search: Workshop for Survivors of Domestic

Violence” was held at the courthouse. This program was planned and organized by employees of the court, the Center for Court Innovation, victim advocates from Safe Horizons (formerly Victims’ Services Agency) and the District Attorney’s office, and Dress for Success New York. Liz Clairborne, Inc. donated gifts for the program participants. This program was a jewel for what it attempted to do and for what it did and for its success in securing the high caliber participating presenters. There were two drawbacks. For security reasons, we were unable to advertise publicly the event in advance. The attendance at this most worthwhile event was much less than what we had wanted and anticipated. The victim advocates sent out direct mail to survivors to obtain their attendance. For those who did attend, the feedback was phenomenal. The Gender Fairness Committee plans on a representation of this program in March 2001, during Women’s History Month. We plan on expanding the net to include all five counties and will make different and further efforts to obtain the attendance of survivors. We will also consider the feasibility and propriety of publicizing our efforts in this regard without jeopardizing the safety of the participants. Izetta Johnson, EEO Manager of the Supreme Court, Kings County, developed and put together a looseleaf book entitled “Job Search” that was given out to the program participants. This program and book, when fine tuned, should be a “best practice” to be emulated.

On October 30, the Gender Fairness Committee along with the Brooklyn Bar Association, the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association and the Kings County Criminal Bar Association co-sponsored a CLE on "An Overview of Recurring Issues in Domestic Violence." The CLE was well attended and the discussion after the presentations were highly spirited. One area where the practitioners thought that there was an abuse of the system was in the issuance of orders of protection by the family court. Some attorneys thought that petitioners sought protective orders for the purpose of gaining an advantage in the matrimonial action re visitation/custody or in being awarded the marital home. I was remiss in not including a family court judge on the panel. The program may be replicated in the near future at the City Bar.

Enclosed as well are copies of the various program and CLE announcements, the CLE course outline and the areas covered by the speakers, as well as copies of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle articles covering the activities of DV Awareness Month.

Enclosed as well is a report from the Hon. John Leone regarding the events held in Staten Island during DV Awareness Month.



Please join us in support of
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Wednesday, October 11, 2000
1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Brooklyn Supreme Court
Room 774

- Program -

Honorable Charles J. Hynes
District Attorney
Keynote Speaker

"My Voice Theatre"
Young Survivors of Domestic Violence

Professor P. J. Gibson
John Jay College

Sponsored by:

Administrative Judge Michael L. Pesce

Brooklyn Supreme Court Gender Bias Committee, Hon. John Leventhal, Chair

Domestic Violence Awareness Sub-Committee, Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair

Court's Domestic Violence Series Continues With 'Defending Our Lives'

Documentary Film Features Former D.A.

By Elizabeth Stull
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — "Response to the court program has been overwhelming," said Justice John Leventhal, speaking of the Gender Fairness Committee's month-long series of events marking Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Last week, Hon. Charles J. Hynes, District Attorney of Kings County, and Professor P.J. Gibson of John Jay College addressed a large crowd of court personnel, judges and attorneys about domestic violence. Young survivors of domestic violence also presented "My Voice Theater" at that event.

Today the series continues with a screening of "Defending Our Lives," an Oscar-winning documentary film featuring Sara Buel. Sara Buel, an advocate and former district attorney, outlines the problem of abuse throughout the video, both as a member of the criminal justice

system and as a former battered woman.

The true stories of four abuse survivors show the magnitude and severity of domestic violence. Every person in this documentary is an expert; each has experienced first-hand the terror of domestic violence.

"Defending Our Lives" has previously been shown in the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, state legislatures, state attorney generals' offices, the United Nations, and the Museum of Modern Art, among other places. Additional information about the film is available at: www.cabridgedocumentaryfilms.org.

Today's screening is from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m., in the 11th Floor Boardroom of the Kings County Courthouse at 360 Adams Street. It is free and open to the public.

Domestic Violence is the single greatest cause of injury to women in America — more than muggings, rapes, and car accidents combined. A woman in the United States is more likely to be killed by her partner than by any other assailant.

In 1996, the Brooklyn Domestic Violence Court became the first one dedicat-



Justice John Leventhal

ed to felonies. In 1998, a second part was added. Under the guidance of Judges Leventhal and D'Emic, these parts have become models for courts across the country. This month, the judges and the Gender Fairness Committee present a series of events to mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Upcoming public events in the Do-



Justice Matthew D'Emic

estic Violence series: a (CLE) presentation at the Brooklyn Bar Association on October 30, and screening of the film "Faces of Fear" on October 31. Details will be in upcoming issues of the *Eagle*. In addition, the *Eagle* investigates the on-going efforts of local courts and agencies to combat the abuse that occurs behind closed doors.

Daily Bulletin

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Domestic Violence Awareness Month Calendar

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. More women in New York City are killed by people they know than by all other causes combined. If you or someone you know is in danger, please call this free 24-hour hotline: 1-800-621-HOPE.

Upcoming Domestic Violence-Related Events:

Wed., Oct. 25

Domestic Violence and the Workplace: Maintaining a Safe and Productive Work Environment, Critical Information for the Business Community. Free. 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Presented by the Kings County District Attorney's Office, 350 Jay Street, 19th Floor.

Pre-registration required by Friday, October 20. Call Nancy Santoro with questions and to request a registration form: 718-250-3639. Fax: 718-250-

3310.

Mon., Oct. 30

An Overview of Recurring Issues in Domestic Violence. 6-8:45 p.m. Free.

This is a CLE event, open to all. Please refer to the CLE Calendar for details. At the Brooklyn Bar Association Meeting Hall, 123 Remsen St. For further information and pre-registration, call: 718-624-0675.

Tues., Oct. 31

Lunchtime Film Series: "Faces of Fear." Free. 1 p.m.-2:15 p.m.

Open to all. Screening at the Courthouse at 360 Adams Street, 11th Floor Boardroom.

Sponsored by: Administrative Judge Michael L. Pesce, and the Gender Fairness Committee, Hon. Judge John M. Leventhal, Chair, Domestic Violence Awareness Sub-Committee, Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair. For further information call: Sharon D. Lastique, 718-643-5319.

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Continuing Legal Education Calendar

(All events to be held at the Brooklyn Bar Association Meeting Hall, 123 Remsen St., Brooklyn.

For details, directions, and pre-registration, call: 718-624-0675.)

Mon., Oct. 30

An Overview of Recurring Issues in Domestic Violence. 6-8:45 p.m.

Featured Guest Speakers: Hon. Judges D'Emic and Leventhal, Presiding Justices of the Brooklyn Domestic Violence Court, Supreme Court, Kings County; Hon. Esther M. Morgenstern, Presiding Justice of the Domestic Violence Part, Criminal Court, Kings

County; Emily J. Sack, Esq., Director of Domestic Violence and Family Court Programs Center for Court Innovation; Wanda Lucibello, Esq., Chief of Special Victims' Division, Kings County District Attorney's Office; Lisa Schreibersdorf, Esq., Executive Director of Brooklyn Defender Service. (Approved by the NYS Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of (3) credit hours; of which (2) credits can be put toward the Areas of Professional Practice requirement, and (1) credit toward the Ethics and Professionalism requirement or the Areas of Practice requirement.)

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Partners Against Crime: Brooklyn's Domestic Violence Court

How it Stays 'One Step Away From Disaster'

By Elizabeth Stull
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — In May 1996, new Administrative Judge Michael Pesce proposed to establish a criminal court devoted exclusively to domestic violence cases. Justice Pesce said it would take six months; New York State Chief Justice Judith S. Kaye gave him one.

Like a wise captain, Justice Pesce foresaw that individual sailors would either sail his ship or sink it. The district attorney's support was especially important, and Justice Pesce knew Brooklyn D.A. Joseph Hynes considered domestic violence a top priority. But "the key to the specialized part is the judge," says Pesce.

In June, 1996, Justice John M. Leventhal took the bench in the first criminal court ever to handle domestic violence felonies exclusively. Justice Leventhal, a friendly and experienced criminal judge, was chosen from forty criminal, civil, and marital term judges.

Unlike other criminal trial judges, Leventhal now handles each case from beginning to end. This continuity "sends a message to victim and defendant that the court's on top of it," Judge Pesce says.

The court was so busy that in October, 1998, the amiable and experienced criminal Judge Matthew J. D'Emic started a second domestic violence part (part meaning courtroom). New cases are now split evenly between D'Emic and Leventhal. Despite the relatively heavy caseload, D'Emic says he's lucky he got the assignment: "I feel like I'm really doing something useful."

Indeed he is: since 1996, the number of repeat offenders has dropped dramatically. And, though Leventhal claims they are "one step away from disaster," there have been no post-indictment homicides.

"Partnerships and monitoring make all the difference," says Judge Leventhal. Partnerships among the court, the D.A.'s office, Probation, Parole, Corrections, and New Horizons, a Victim Services Agency housed in the court, are crucial to effective case handling. Collaboration with treatment and incarceration programs, elder abuse groups, and even the A.S.P.C.A. helps the judges make informed decisions that are sensitive to issues surrounding domestic violence. Judges and agencies network at monthly meetings and share their insights.

With so many partner-groups involved, monitoring domestic violence cases can get complicated. Fortunately,

Justice Pesce's vision included Resource Coordinators, who link the judge to all out-of-court activities. For example, the Coordinator makes sure defendants show up at their batterers' groups. Every victim has a victim advocate, who reports violations through the Coordinator. Victim advocates also make the D.A.'s office accessible to victims.

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Partners Against Crime: Brooklyn's Domestic Violence Court

How it Stays 'One Step Away From Disaster'

Even Brooklyn's well-coordinated domestic violence felony parts suffer from the disjuncts of a large multi-court system. The felony parts hear all indited crimes meeting broad relationship definitions: all intimate partners, including same-sex partners and elder abuse by adult children, are included. However, one family is often involved in many courts—family, criminal, and marital, at once.

A "one family, one court" system, handling all cases related to a particular family, has been suggested (somewhat wistfully) as one solution. Advocates also hope for expanded treatment programs for abusers and stronger enforcement of court orders.

No one is saying that court is the answer: everyone involved with domestic violence is quick to point out that it is a complex social problem to be fought on many levels. Until the day domestic violence court becomes unnecessary, we are all one step away from disaster.

Strict monitoring of probationers is key. A program initiated by Justice Leventhal requires that probationers report back to court every two months. Leventhal also initiated an experimental program, new this month, requiring parolees to report back to court to hear the conditions of their parole repeated. Although parole violations can only be punished by a parole board, the judge's presence extends his consistent authority over the case. Leventhal's innovations anticipated some goals of Janet Reno's extensive parole reforms.

Reno may not have been inspired by the Brooklyn court, but the Unified Court System is replicating and adapting Brooklyn's felony court model across the state, in: Westchester (handling misdemeanors and felonies in one courtroom, opened March, 1999); Buffalo (handling misdemeanors, opened March, 1999); Bronx (handling misdemeanors since June 1998, and felonies since October, 1999); and Suffolk County (opened September, 1999). Judges from around the world visit Brooklyn's domestic violence court; but folks here are still adjusting their model.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2000

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'Defending Our Lives': A Film Review

Part of Domestic Violence Series at Kings County Courthouse

By Elizabeth Stull
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — These women have been punched, kicked, cut, and choked. They have been locked in cellars, attics, sheds, and bedrooms; tied up, gagged, choked, and raped. They are not victims of foreign wars or hostages in the Middle East; they are your neighbors: your mothers, your daughters, your sisters, your cousins. And their screams are muffled behind closed doors.

The film "Defending Our Lives," presented yesterday at the Kings County Courthouse, opens with heart-stopping pictures of battered women. They look like the women sitting next to you on the subway. They are rich and poor, white and women of color.

Throughout the film, we cut back to these images of abused women: first, to police photos of minor cuts and bruises; then, to news footage of bleeding bodies strapped on stretchers; and finally, to family videos of open coffins. A female voice describes how these women were murdered by their husbands and boyfriends. The slow progression of violence in these images mirrors the increasingly bloody stories told by four survivors of domestic violence.

"He was nice at first," she said. "He was

really decent, he bought me things ..."

Each woman tells about a relationship that became frantic. She fell in love with a kind, generous man, but things changed. He didn't like her to go out with friends; maybe he hit her the night dinner wasn't ready. Slowly, over months and years, he got more jealous, obsessive, and accusing, until the emotional violence turned physical. She was beaten and raped with a hot curling iron; her teeth knocked out with a hammer. Cycles of abuse became increasingly dangerous, until the woman reasonably believed that her life was in danger. Finally, she was forced to act.

Each woman featured in "Defending Our Lives" was imprisoned for killing her husband. All four had left their husbands at least once. All had tried pressing charges, but their complaints were denied. Sitting behind bars for sentences of 10 to 35 years each, they expressed anger and frustration. "I was victimized by my husband, and now I am victimized by the system," one woman said. Another, who lost her child when she went to prison, emphasized that "It didn't have to be." She wanted every woman to know: "You have rights. You have to demand your rights."

Terrorized and hopeless, battered

Please turn to page 15



Former District Attorney and survivor of domestic violence Sara Buel

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Lunchtime Movie Series

"Faces of Fear"

Award Winning Documentary Film

Date: Tuesday, October 31, 2000

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Place: Brooklyn Supreme Court
360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
11th Floor Boardroom

Bring Lunch If You Wish

TO RSVP or Address Questions, Call
Sharon Lastique, Resource Coordinator
Brooklyn Domestic Violence Court
(718) 643-5319

Sponsored by:

Administrative Judge Michael L. Pesce

Brooklyn Supreme Gender Fairness Committee, Hon. John M. Leventhal, Chair

Domestic Violence Awareness Sub-Committee, Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Lunchtime Movie Series

"Defending Our Lives"

Award Winning Documentary Film
Featuring Sara Buel, Esq.

Date: Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Place: Brooklyn Supreme Court
360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201
11th Floor Boardroom

Bring Lunch If You Wish

TO RSVP or Address Questions, Call
Jezebel Cook, Resource Coordinator
Brooklyn Domestic Violence Court
(718) 243-2768

APPROVED

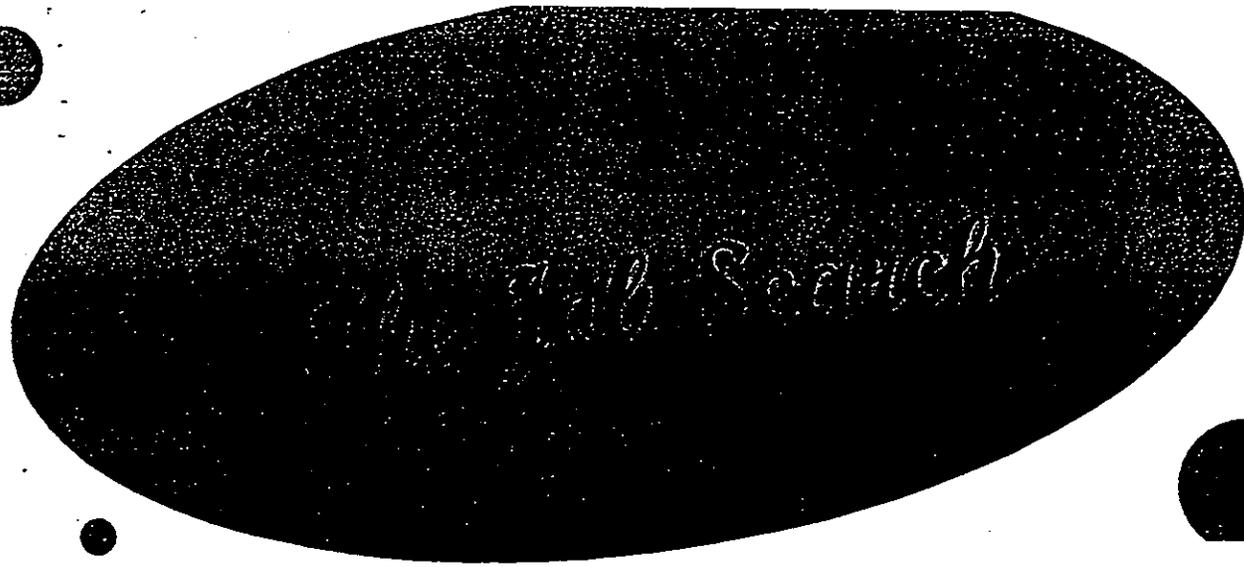
Sponsored by:

Administrative Judge Michael L. Pesce

Brooklyn Supreme Gender Fairness Committee, Hon. John M. Leventhal, Chair

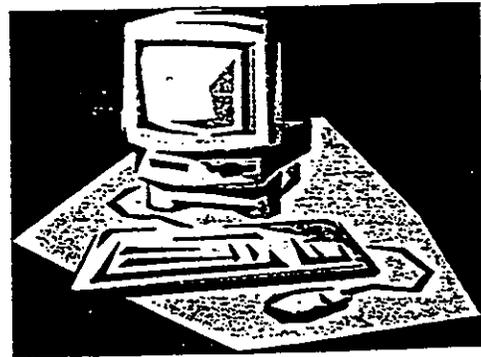
Domestic Violence Awareness Sub-Committee, Hon. Matthew J. D'Emic, Chair

HON. MICHAEL L. PESCE
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
2nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT



A workshop for survivors of domestic violence preparing for the workforce

*Supreme Court Kings County
360 Adams Street
11th Floor Boardroom
October 20, 2000*



Presented by:

- **Supreme Court Kings County**
- **The Center for Court Innovation**
- **Kings County District Attorney's Office**
- **Safe Horizons**

9:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.

▶ **Welcome & Introduction**
Honorable John Leventhal

9:40 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.

▶ **Selling Yourself On Paper**

The Cover Letter & Resume
Izetta Johnson - EEO Manager, Kings Supreme Court

10:20 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

▶ **Break**

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

▶ **Selling Yourself In Person**

The Job Search
Interviewing Techniques
Christina Hughes - Program Coordinator, Community Associates Development Corp.

1:30 a.m. - 11:50 p.m.

▶ **Selling Yourself On The Job**

Professional Appearance
Arlene Wallace - Associate Director, Dress for Success

11:50 p.m. - 12:00 p.m.

▶ **Break**

12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m.

▶ **Employee Rights & Safety Planning in the Workplace Panel Discussion**

Moderator:

Emily Sack - Deputy Director, The Center for Court Innovation

Panelists:

Ovita Williams - Senior Clinical Supervisor, Kings County D.A.'s Office

Christy Gibney Carey - Director, Safe Horizon Brooklyn Court Program

Geoff Boehm - Attorney, NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund

12:50 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

▶ **Closing Remarks**

Honorable Matthew D'Emic

CLE--Brooklyn Bar Association--CLE

"The Brooklyn Bar Association 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 from January 8, 1999 - January 8, 2002."

AN OVERVIEW OF RECURRING ISSUES IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

This transitional and regular continuing legal education program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the NYS CLE Board for a maximum of three (3) credit hours of which an aggregate of two (2) credit hours can be applied to the Areas of Professional Practice requirement and an aggregate of one (1) credit can be applied to the Ethics and Professionalism or Areas of Professional Practice requirement. Each hour may be counted only as satisfying one category of credit; duplicate credit for the same hour of instruction is not permitted.

Monday Evening: October 30, 2000
from 6 P.M. to 8:45 P.M.

at the

Brooklyn Bar Association Meeting Hall
123 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Phone: (718) 624-0675 Fax: (718) 797-1713

Featured Guest Speakers

Hon. Matthew D'Emic

Presiding Justice

*of the Brooklyn Domestic Violence Court
Supreme Court, Kings County*

Hon. John M. Leventhal

Presiding Justice

*of the Brooklyn Domestic Violence Court
Supreme Court, Kings County*

Hon. Esther M. Morgenstern

Presiding Judge

*of the Domestic Violence Part
Criminal Court, Kings County*

Emily J. Sack, Esq.

*Director of Domestic Violence
and Family Court Programs
Center for Court Innovation*

Wanda Lucibello Esq.

*Chief of Special Victims' Division
Kings County District Attorney's Office*

Lisa Schreibersdorf, Esq.

*Executive Director of
Brooklyn Defender Service*

-----REGISTRATION FORM-----

Please make checks payable to the Brooklyn Bar Association and return to:
Brooklyn Bar Association 123 Remsen Street Brooklyn, NY 11201

Please register me for the *Overview of Recurring Issues in Domestic Violence* CLE program. Enclosed is a check for \$_____ for my reservation. For Pre-Registration, payment must be received by October 23rd. Pre-Registered Member of a Sponsoring Organization: _____ \$60; Non-Member or Registering at the Door: _____ \$120; Public Service Attorneys--Prosecutors, Defenders, Legal Aid and Legal Services: _____ \$60.

Please print the following information clearly so we can send you your Certificate of Attendance.

NAME _____

Address _____

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Business Phone: _____ Home Phone _____

"Fee reductions and fee waivers are available for all Continuing Legal Education courses sponsored by the Brooklyn Bar Association. Please consult the *Financial Hardship Guidelines and Procedures*."

An Overview of Recurring Issues in Domestic Violence

Organized by Hon. John M. Leventhal
Presiding Justice of the Brooklyn Domestic Violence Court
Supreme Court, Kings County

Sponsored by

Brooklyn Women's Bar Association, Elaine Avery, Esq., President
CLE Committee of the Brooklyn Bar Association, Steven D. Cohn, Esq., Chair
Gender Fairness Committee of the Second
Judicial District, Hon. John M. Leventhal, Chair
Kings County Criminal Bar Association, Hon. Ronald J. Aiello, President

Course Outline

Justice Matthew D'Emic

1. Battered Women's Syndrome
2. Exceptions to the Hearsay Rule
3. Bail

Hon. John M. Leventhal

1. Discovery
2. Orders of Protection
3. Double Jeopardy

Hon. Esther M. Morgenstern

1. Domestic incident report for use as corroborating affidavit
2. Use of excited utterances as an exception to the hearsay rule to corroborate affidavits
3. Programs in the Criminal Court

Wanda Lucibello Esq.

1. Prosecutor's perspective on
 - A. No-Drop Policy
 - B. Molineux-Ventimeglia
2. Prosecutor's use of Battered Women's Syndrome for complainants

Lisa Schreibersdorf, Esq.

1. Defense Perspective on
 - A. No-Drop Policy
 - B. Molineux-Ventimeglia
 - C. Battered Women's Syndrome for Defendants

Emily J. Sack, Esq.

1. Domestic Violence Courts Nationally
2. Legislation Affecting Domestic Violence

Supreme Court
of the
State of New York



JOHN LEONE
JUSTICE

JUSTICES CHAMBERS
18 RICHMOND TERRACE
STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. 10301

(718) 390-5356
November 14, 2000

Hon. Justice John M. Leventhal, Chair
Gender Fairness Committee
Kings County, Supreme Court
360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, New York

RE: Domestic Violence Program
Richmond County Supreme Court

Dear Justice Leventhal:

On Monday, October 30, 2000, the Richmond County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee, Chaired by Judge John Leone, held its "Domestic Violence Awareness Program". The program consisted of an overview of the statistics concerning this pervasive problem in our society, a talk by Angela Jones, a Surrogate's Court employee, telling her experiences concerning the assistance she received from Victim Services and thereafter as a member of Victim Services helping other women.

A film was also shown, entitled "It's Not OK" depicting victims of domestic violence and the help they sought from other women in group therapy sessions. After the film, the employees in attendance entered into a discussion concerning their views on domestic violence, its physical and mental components and the necessity of awareness in our society of this problem.

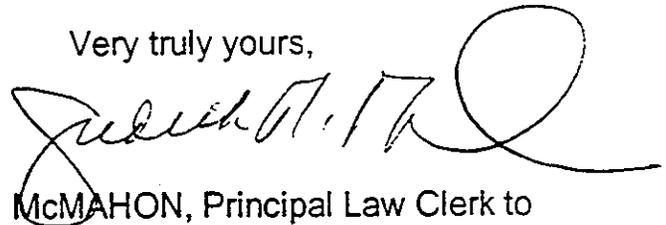
At the time of the program, numerous materials were distributed from various Domestic Violence Awareness Groups that offered important information concerning where help can be sought. The main thrust of the program was threefold, to make women aware that help is available; that they are not alone and, that it is not their fault.

Page Two
Judge Leventhal
November 14, 2000

In addition to the above mentioned program, all employees of the Richmond County Supreme Court and Surrogate's Court were given a booklet which was distributed on payday entitled, "Domestic Violence Hand Book" which contains a wealth of information on where to receive assistance in New York State.

If there is any further information that I can provide for you, please feel free to communicate with me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith McMahon", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

JUDITH McMAHON, Principal Law Clerk to
Justice John Leone
Program Coordinator of Domestic Violence
Awareness Program

JM:ll

CC: Honorable Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Honorable Jonathan Lippman
Honorable Joan B. Carey
Honorable Juanita Bing Newton
Honorable Michael L. Pesce



PRESS RELEASE FROM THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE,
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT - HON. JOHN M. LEVENTHAL, CHAIR
KINGS COUNTY - NEW YORK
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH - MARCH, 2001

1. **Wednesday, March 7, 2001 - 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

Helen Truax:

Financial Consultant at Salomon Smith Barney
"Empowering Yourself: How to Manage Your Finances"
Chairs: Hon. Anne Feldman and Hon. Margaret Cammer

2. **Tuesday, March 13, 2001 - 1:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.**

Peggy Cooper Davis:

Former Family Court Judge and current Professor of Law at NYU School of Law and
Author of "Neglected Stories - The Constitution and Family Values"
Chair: Hon. Priscilla Hall

3. **Wednesday, March 21, 2001 - 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

Introduction - **Jean Torell-Hughes, R.N.,**

Director of Business and Community Affairs at LICH

Fran Cartwright Alcarese, R.N., Ph.D.

Clinical Director, Opher Cancer Center

"Cancer Facts for Women"

Anne Higgins, R.N., MP

Administrator of HIV Services at LICH

"Women and HIV in 2001"

Chairs: Hon. Barbara Panepinto and Hon. JoAnn Ferdinand

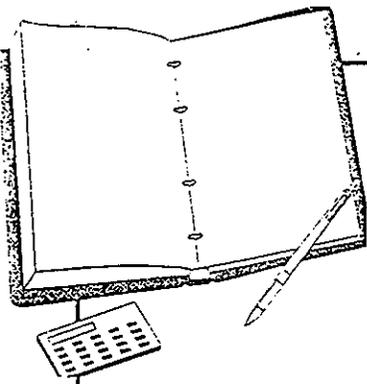
4. **Thursday, March 29, 2001 - 1:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.**

Evelyn Aquila, New York State Commissioner of Elections and
Nancy Mottola-Schacher, New York City Commissioner of Elections

"Women's Suffrage and Its Political Effects"

Chairs: Hon. Gloria Aronin and Hon. Marsha Steinhardt

ALL EVENTS ARE BEING HELD IN THE CENTRAL JURY ROOM
ROOM NUMBER 261 AT 360 ADAMS STREET



**In Celebration of
Women's History Month**

Please join to learn about

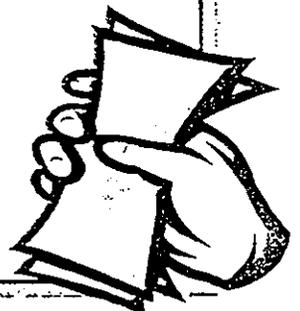
**Empowering Your\$elf:
How To Manage
Your Finance\$**

**Presented by:
Helen Truax
Financial Consultant,
Salomon Smith Barney**

**When: Wednesday, March 7th
1:00 - 2:00 p.m**

**Where: Central Jury Room
Room 261
360 Adams Street**

**Women's History Month Committee
Supreme Court, Kings County**



**HON. MICHAEL E. PESCE
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
2nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

Upcoming Events in the Legal Community:

Wed. Mar. 7 "Empowering Yourself: How to Manage Your Finances" 1-2 p.m.

Helen Truax, a financial consultant at Salomon Smith Barney, presents an informational program. Part of a series of events celebrating Women's History Month at the Brooklyn courts. Sponsored by the Gender Fairness Committee, with Justices Anne Feldman and Margaret Cammer as program chairs. Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, room 261. Free and open to the public.

★ ★ ★

Thur. Mar. 8 CLE Program: Limited Liability Companies 12-4 p.m.

A live satellite TV program on Limited Liability Companies (LLC), including: LLC case law; LLCs and choice of entity for entrepreneurs; use of options for equity compensation; tax and legal effects of non-compensatory warrants. Sample language and forms for mergers, conversions, compensatory options, and non-compensatory warrants will be available to registrants on an ALI-ABA website. Registration fee: \$175. Private in-office viewing may be arranged if your building has a satellite dish, or attend at Fashion Institute of Technology, 8th Ave & 27th Street. For more information and to register call: 800-CLE-NEWS.

★ ★ ★

Sat. Mar. 10 KCCBA Annual Dinner Dance 6:30 p.m.

The Kings County Criminal Bar Association Annual Dinner Dance honors Hon. William Miller, Lewis Cohen, Esq., and Barry M. Schreiber, Esq., and

John Gallo. Cocktails at 6:30. Dinner at 8 p.m. This gala event will be held at the Brooklyn Marriott Hotel, 333 Adams Street, Brooklyn. \$150 per person, black tie optional. Reservations are required. For reservations and more information contact: Andrew Rendeiro, Esq: 718-237-1900.

★ ★ ★

Mon. Mar. 12 Blood Drive 9:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

The Kings County Supreme Court Office of Operations announces a community blood drive. It will take place at the Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Room 319. All are welcome. For more information contact Lt. Michael Magliano: 718-643-8502.

★ ★ ★

Tues. Mar. 13 'Neglected Stories — The Constitution and Family Values' 1-2:30 p.m.

Speaker: Peggy Cooper Davis, former family court judge and current professor of law at NYU School of Law, and author of "Neglected Stories — The Constitution and Family Values." Part of a series of events celebrating Women's History Month at the Brooklyn courts. Sponsored by the Gender Fairness Committee, with Justice Priscilla Hall, program chair. Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, room 261. Free and open to the public.

To have events listed in the Daily Bulletin, please mail them to Elizabeth Stull, Brooklyn Daily Eagle, 30 Henry Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201, fax to (718) 858-4483, or e-mail to court@brooklyneagle.net

Play Ball in the Financial Market, Advisor Tells Court Employees, Jurors



Helen Truax (center) with Hon. Ann Feldman, J.S.C. Kings County, and Hon. Margaret Cammer, Kings County Civil Court, co-chairs of yesterday's event.

Photo by Elizabeth Stull

By Elizabeth Stull
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — "Less than 200 years ago, women did not own property," Judge Margaret Cammer noted yesterday, as she introduced her friend Helen Truax, of Salomon Smith Barney, at Brooklyn Supreme Court. "It is an honor to have a woman here who's at the center of finance."

"Empowering Yourself: How to Manage Your Finances" drew an attentive crowd of court employees and jurors to the Central Jury Selection Room — and they were not disappointed.

Play Ball!

It's more important than ever for individuals to know about financial planning, said Truax. People are living longer, families live far apart, and companies no longer provide patriarchal protection for retirement. Neither does the government: social security, once available at 62, is not collectible until age 65, and it is now taxed.

While we all need to manage our own money, the flood of information available is confusing and misleading, Truax said. Managing your own finances can be like driving a car without knowing where the steering wheel or the brakes are.

"Advertising is not about you!" Truax emphasized the importance of knowing what you want when you go shopping for a financial plan. Time is all-important: do you need cash now? Next year? Or sometime down the road?

Make a Game Plan

"It's like a baseball diamond. You have to get to first before you can go to second and third base," said Truax. Cash, bonds, and stocks represent her three financial bases. You have to save cash before you can

consider lending money (through bonds) or owning a business (through stocks).

Despite its many names, cash means any investment where a dollar equals a dollar. Bonds include six-month certificates of deposit, municipal, government, and corporate bonds. A bucket-full of bonds makes a mutual fund.

At third base, you change from a lender to a business owner, picking up a share of the profits — and the losses. When the business you own has a good year, you earn money; when it has a bad year, you lose. If you own shares of the GAP, for example, and GAP t-shirts aren't popular this year, you might lose money on those shares.

This is where your time becomes important. Truax estimated that cash investments earn five percent interest, while bonds should earn six percent, and stocks average about 10 percent, over time. But stocks need at least five to seven years to stabilize — to balance out the good years and the bad years, and earn that ten percent.

"The stock market is about you and I," said Truax, "you and I and our business." It's about breakfast cereal and arthritis, said Truax, and the companies that provide these services. Diversified mutual funds just mean you don't have everything riding on the corner store. It's a movie, she added, that is far from over.

"It ain't over till it's over," as another famous coach once said. Yogi Berra

might approve the prudent, classical investment policy Truax encouraged.

Saving a little every month, even just \$25 can make a big difference. Even if you have credit card debts, investing a little money can have a positive psychological effect that makes a big difference in the long run. (If you can, however, it is better to pay down your debt and be home free, Truax added.)

Everybody Needs a Coach

Form a relationship with a financial advisor you can trust and argue with, said Truax. When the stock market is down, people run back to first and second base; but this may not be the best choice for you. Look at your statements every month and ask the basic questions.

You can get cheap financial advice from banks, insurance companies, and brokerage houses, said Truax. Even Truax has an accountant, and a lawyer to help with certain decisions.

Juror Elizabeth Sapp has attended several financial seminars, and said this was the best. After hearing Truax compare investing to a baseball diamond, juror Elizabeth Sapp said, "I'm going to go home and put up that baseball diamond on my wall. She made it simple."

This program was part of a series of events marking Women's History Month at the Brooklyn Courts. For more information about future events, see upcoming editions of the *Eagle*.

Milestones & Miscellany

Stars & Stripes swept Kookaburra III 4-0 at Fremantle, Australia, to bring the America's Cup yacht trophy back to the United States in 1987.

Neglected Stories in Constitutional Law: Anti-slavery Marriages

By Elizabeth Stull
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — Women's History Month at the Brooklyn Courts this week unearthed the almost forgotten "anti-slavery marriages," a link between the nineteenth-century feminist and anti-slavery movements' quest for human rights.

Hon. Peggy Cooper-Davis, NYU School of Law Professor and former family court judge, became interested in the rights of families when she sat on the bench. Reading that the separation of families and partners structured slavery, Cooper-Davis questioned the implications for today's decisions to remove kids from their families.

"It is so important to keep children in a safe place," she emphasized, and "the possibility for bias is so difficult."

Her book "Neglected Stories: The Constitution and Family Values," explores how the 14th Amendment developed from anti-slavery traditions.

Some of the most famous abolitionists were women who fought slavery in their personal and public lives; but while fighting for African-Americans' right to marry, many resented marital laws that gave husbands total control and broad "freedom to discipline their wives."

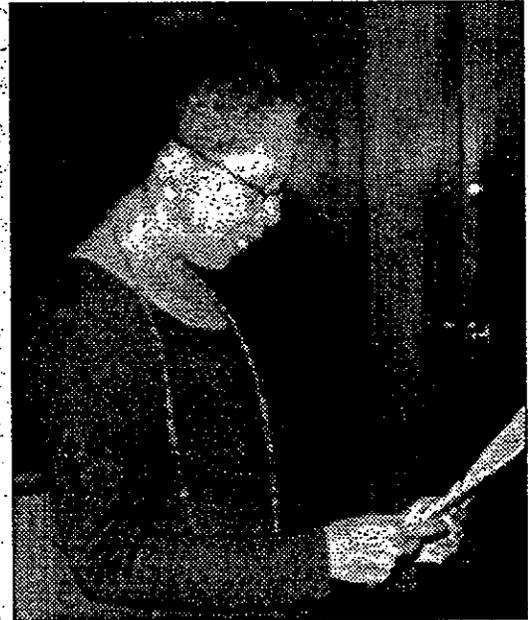
Defiance of the marriage laws marked an intersection of abolitionist and feminist movements. 'Anti-slavery marriages' struck a blow for human rights by rejecting traditional vows and U.S. laws requiring women to obey their husbands.

Henry Blackwell and Lucy Stone, Ms. Kelly and Stephen Foster offer two famous examples. Some women, dubbed "Lucy Stoners," even kept their maiden names.

"I refuse either to assume nor endure authority," wrote Henry Blackwell, while wooing Stone. "Perfect equality in this relationship I would have; the equality of progress, not decay," said his love letters.

Kelly & Foster's Philadelphia wedding party enjoyed a cake baked with "free sugar," from non-slave owning plantations.

Some abolitionist marriages endured,



Hon. Peggy Cooper-Davis, Director of the Lawyering Program at New York University School of Law and former family court judge, discussed "abolitionist marriages" at Tuesday's Women's History Month event at Brooklyn Supreme Court.

Photo by Elizabeth Stull

others did not. The early experiments show the progress in how the law treats women today. But "remnants of the old regime can still be seen," suggested Cooper-Davis, regarding both women and African-American families.

A woman's basic human right to have children without a partner may remain unprotected by the 14th Amendment, intended to protect traditional families.

By the twentieth-century, feminists and civil rights groups had split. Common objectives like abolitionist marriages suggest the primary goal of human rights for all.

Justice Yvonne Lewis introduced this week's Women's History Month event, chaired by Justice Priscilla Hall. Justice Albert Tomei participated in this event, with Justice John Leventhal, Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee, Justice Francis Egitto and others.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PRESENTATION

“THE JOB SEARCH”

A workshop for survivors of domestic violence preparing for the workforce

**Welcome & Introduction: Honorable John Leventhal*

**Cover Letter & Resume Writing: Izetta Johnson, Kings County Supreme Court*

**The Job Search & Interviewing Techniques: Izetta Johnson*

**Professional Appearance: Arlene Wallace, Dress for Success New York*

**Employee Rights: Spenta Cama, NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund*

**Safety Planning on the Job: Christy Gibney Carey, Safe Horizon and Ovita Williams, Kings County District Attorney's Office*

**Closing Remarks: Honorable Matthew D'Emic*

March 16, 2001

9:30 am - 1:00 pm

**Kings County Supreme Court Building,
11th Floor Boardroom**

360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY

Refreshments served and gifts distributed

Presented by: Kings County Supreme Court, The Center for Court Innovation, Kings County District Attorney's Office and Safe Horizon

Please RSVP by March 9th: (718) 250-4796 or (718) 834-7476

Re-entering Your Life: Court Program For DV Survivors Rejoining the Workforce

Sponsored by Courts,
DA's Office, Safe Horizons

By Elizabeth Stull
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — Participants in a recent workshop at Brooklyn Supreme Court shared an important secret: they were all survivors of domestic violence. Several have relocated again and again to protect their lives and their children from abusive partners. Now, they need jobs.

The workshop, coordinated by the Supreme Court's Gender Fairness Committee with the Center for Court Innovation, Kings County District Attorney's Office, and Safe Horizons, offered legal and practical advice specifically geared for domestic violence survivors reentering the workforce.

Common interviewing fears and insecurities are magnified for women worried about explaining recent "tattoos" and long absences from work.

The workshop addressed how to dress for success, as well as how to prepare a professional resume, and how to present yourself effectively at a job interview. Beyond a positive attitude, tactful answers and conservative dressing, advocates from the district attorney's office and N.O.W. described legal recourse.

"What if they ask me about childcare?" the women asked again and again. Representatives from N.O.W. Legal Defense Fund, the DA's office and the Center for Court Innovations assured participants that certain questions — including those about childcare, age, and marital status — are illegal in a job interview. This is employment discrimination, said attorneys.

"But they ask," insisted workshop participants, eager and afraid at the same time.

Under a new City law that just passed in January, individuals who experience job discrimination like inappropriate questions at a job interview can file a complaint with the New York City Commission on Human Rights.

The Commission's Law Enforcement Bureau, at 40 Rector Street, 9th floor, in downtown Manhattan, is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday — Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday. No appointment is required, but an investigator can also take the information by phone and arrange a home visit. The number to call, said advocates, is: 212-306-7450.

Another segment of the program addressed job safety planning. When you interview, look at the business's security system. Is there a security guard? A building code? Once on the job, participants encouraged each other to show everyone (or at least security personnel) photos of the abuser, and say he should not be admitted.

The thirty-three people who attended



Justices John Leventhal (above) and Matthew D'Emic, co-chairs of the Gender Fairness Committee, were extremely pleased with this second court-sponsored job workshop for domestic violence survivors. Attendance had more than doubled since the October program, they said.

the informational and empowering workshop found it extremely positive. However, Arlene Wallace, of Dress for Success New York, said "this is just the tip of the iceberg."

Wallace named several good job training programs, including: Sanctuary for Families; Coalition for the Homeless; Chinese American Planning Counsel; Phoenix House; Women's Prison Association; Medgar-Evers College Cope Program.

Once you obtain the skills and an interview, you will be referred to Dress for Success to pick out a suit.



KINGS COUNTY SUPREME COURT

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH - MARCH, 2001

Wednesday, March 21, 2001

1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Jean Torell-Hughes, R.N., Introduction

Director of Business and Community Health at LICH

Fran Cartwright Alcarese, R.N., Ph.D.c

Clinical Director, Othmer Cancer Center

“Cancer Facts for Women”

Chairs: Hon. Barbara Panepinto and Hon. JoAnn Ferdinand

EVENTS ARE BEING HELD IN
THE CENTRAL JURY ROOM
ROOM NUMBER 261
AT 360 ADAMS STREET

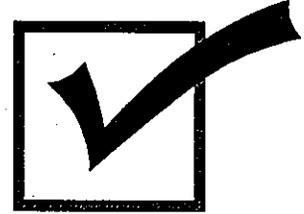
APPROVED

HON. MICHAEL L. PESCE
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
2nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH - MARCH, 2001



DOES YOUR VOTE REALLY COUNT?



“WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE AND ITS POLITICAL EFFECT”

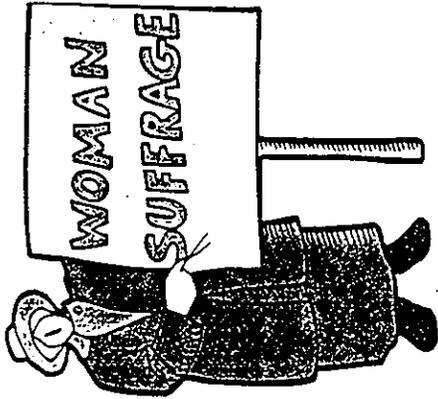
**THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2001 - 1:00 PM TO 2:15 PM
CENTRAL JURY ROOM, 360 ADAMS STREET**

**EVELYN J. AQUILA, NEW YORK STATE COMMISSIONER
OF ELECTIONS AND NANCY MOTTOLA-SCHACHER,
NEW YORK CITY COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS
WILL BE GUEST SPEAKERS**

CHAIRS: HON. GLORIA COHEN ARONIN AND HON. MARSHA L. STEINHARDT

APPROVED

**HON. MICHAEL L. PESCE
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE
2nd JUDICIAL DISTRICT**



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MARCH, 2001

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* GUEST SPEAKERS *

EVELYN J. AQUILA

NEW YORK STATE COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS

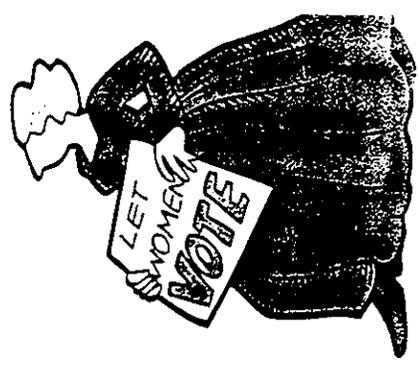
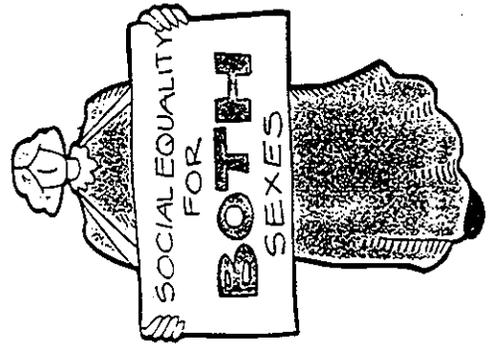
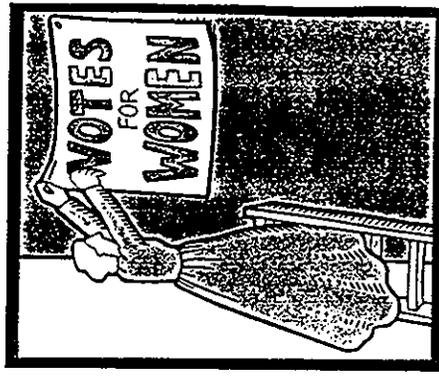
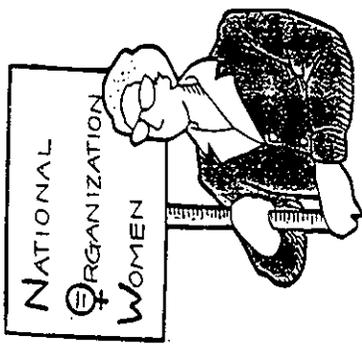
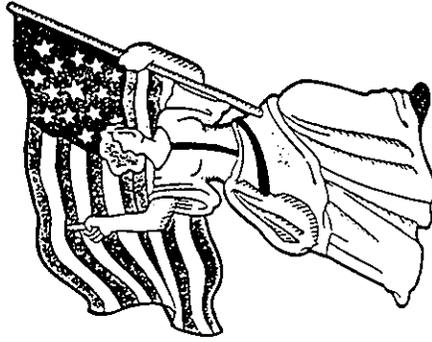
AND

NANCY MOTTOLA-SCHACHER

NEW YORK CITY COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS

CHAIRS:

HON. GLORIA COHEN ARONIN AND HON. MARSHA L. STEINHARDT
APPROVED: HON. MICHAEL L. PESCE, ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, 2ND JUDICIAL DISTRICT



MEMORANDUM

TO: JUSTICE JOHN LEVENTHAL
FROM: JUSTICE JOHN LEONE/ JUDITH McMAHON
RE: WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
DATED: March 20, 2001

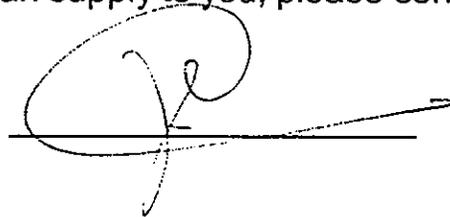
The Richmond County Supreme Court received from the New York City Commission on the Status of Women a calendar of events that were being held throughout the month in celebration of Women's History Month. This was made available to all employees, as well as, all visitors to the courthouse by setting a table with various pamphlets and information concerning Women's History Month.

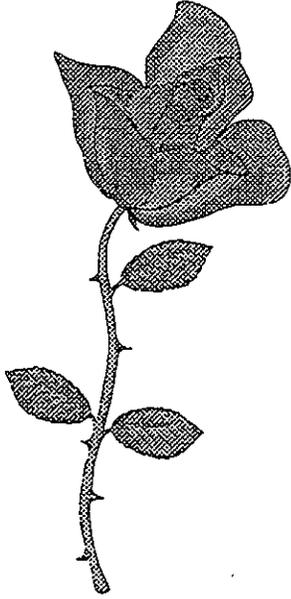
On March 28, 2001, an all-girl class from a local high school on Staten Island will be attending a program concerning Women in History. The students will be shown a film entitled "Equality - A History of the Women's Movement", and will also hear from the Chief Clerk of the Richmond County Supreme Court, Ms. Jayne Coleman, SCO Nancy Porter-Haley, and myself Judith McMahon concerning women's roles in the Law and in the Court system.

On March 30, 2001, the film called "Equality - A History of the Women's Movement" will be shown to all employees of the Richmond County Supreme Court, as well as, members of the Staten Island Women's Bar Association. The attached flyer was sent to all the Judges' chambers, as well as, all members of the Women's Bar Association and we are expecting a great turnout for this event.

If there is any further information I can supply to you, please contact me.

Enclosure

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. McMahon", written over a horizontal line.



**IN CELEBRATION
OF
WOMEN'S HISTORY
MONTH**

**THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
OF THE
RICHMOND COUNTY SUPREME COURT**

and

**THE STATEN ISLAND WOMEN'S
BAR ASSOCIATION**

Will be Presenting a Film entitled:

"EQUALITY"

A History of the Women's Movement in America

***Judge John Leone,
Chairperson of the Gender
Fairness Committee, Richmond County***

Judith McMahan, Program Coordinator

***JOIN US ON FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2001 @ 2:30 p.m.
Supreme Court, 18 Richmond Terrace, Room 210***

***Please call Judge John Leone's Chambers at 390-5356
if you will be attending by March 23, 2001***

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

THE KINGS County Gender Fairness Committee is planning events in October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Several speakers, including Brooklyn District Attorney Charles J. Hynes, will address a program at 360 Adams Street, in the 11th floor board room, on Oct. 11 at 1 p.m.

On Oct. 17, in the same board room, the documentary film, "Defending Our Lives" will be shown at 1 p.m.

On Oct. 30, at 6 p.m., the Brooklyn Bar Association will sponsor a continuing legal education session on domestic violence and Family Court programs at 123 Remsen St. Additional information is available by telephoning 718-624-0675.

The documentary film, "Faces of Fear" will be shown Oct. 31 at 1 p.m. in the 11th floor board room at 360 Adams Street.

Supreme Court
of the
State of New York



JOHN LEONE
JUSTICE

JUSTICES CHAMBERS
18 RICHMOND TERRACE
STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. 10301

(718) 390-5356
November 14, 2000

Hon. Justice John M. Leventhal, Chair
Gender Fairness Committee
Kings County, Supreme Court
360 Adams Street
Brooklyn, New York

RE: Domestic Violence Program
Richmond County Supreme Court

Dear Justice Leventhal:

On Monday, October 30, 2000, the Richmond County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee, Chaired by Judge John Leone, held its "Domestic Violence Awareness Program". The program consisted of an overview of the statistics concerning this pervasive problem in our society, a talk by Angela Jones, a Surrogate's Court employee, telling her experiences concerning the assistance she received from Victim Services and thereafter as a member of Victim Services helping other women.

A film was also shown, entitled "It's Not OK" depicting victims of domestic violence and the help they sought from other women in group therapy sessions. After the film, the employees in attendance entered into a discussion concerning their views on domestic violence, its physical and mental components and the necessity of awareness in our society of this problem.

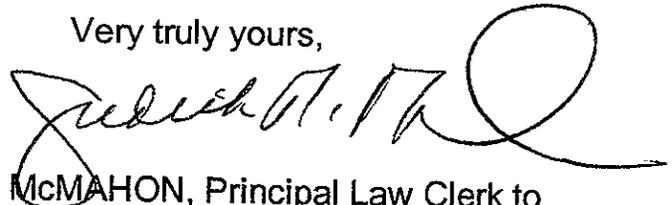
At the time of the program, numerous materials were distributed from various Domestic Violence Awareness Groups that offered important information concerning where help can be sought. The main thrust of the program was threefold, to make women aware that help is available; that they are not alone and, that it is not their fault.

Page Two
Judge Leventhal
November 14, 2000

In addition to the above mentioned program, all employees of the Richmond County Supreme Court and Surrogate's Court were given a booklet which was distributed on payday entitled, "Domestic Violence Hand Book" which contains a wealth of information on where to receive assistance in New York State.

If there is any further information that I can provide for you, please feel free to communicate with me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith McMahon", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

JUDITH McMAHON, Principal Law Clerk to
Justice John Leone
Program Coordinator of Domestic Violence
Awareness Program

JM:ll

CC: Honorable Betty Weinberg Ellerin
Honorable Jonathan Lippman
Honorable Joan B. Carey
Honorable Juanita Bing Newton
Honorable Michael L. Pesce