

# ANNUAL REPORTS

*Local Gender Bias and  
Gender Fairness Committees*

*2013-2014*

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*Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees*  
2013-2014

*Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Christopher Cahill and Patricia Beeler, Co-Chairs**

*Fourth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Polly A. Hoye, Chair; Tatiana Coffinger, Vice Chair; Elena Jaffe Tastenson, Esq., Vice Chair; Eleanor DeCoursey, Esq., Vice Chair**

*Fifth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts*  
**Hon. Deborah Karalunas, Chair**

*Seventh Judicial District Committee Gender Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Teresa Johnson, Chair**

*Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Jeannette Ogden, Chair**

*Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts*  
**Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Chair; Hon. Allen Hochberg, Vice-Chair**

*Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee*  
**Marian Tinari and Cynthia Vargas, Co-Chairs**

*Gender Fairness Committee of the Twelfth Judicial District,  
Supreme Court Committee*  
**Hon. Richard Lee Price, Chair; Hon. Josephine Bastone, Vice-Chair**

*Committee on Equality in the Courts for the Twelfth Judicial District, Bronx County  
Civil Court*  
**Hon. Elizabeth Taylor, Chair**

*Gender Fairness Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Term*  
**Hon. Deborah Kaplan and Gregory Testa, Chairs**

*Gender Fairness Committee, New York County Criminal Court*  
**Hon. Lisa Sokoloff**

*Kings County Gender Fairness Committee (Supreme Court, Civil Term)*  
**Hon. Gloria Dabiri, Chair**

*Kings County Supreme Court, Criminal Term and Kings County Family Court*  
**Hon. Patricia Henry, Chair; Hon. Emily Olshansky, Chair**

*Kings County Civil Court Gender Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Genine D. Edwards, Chair**

*New York County Civil Court Gender Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Tanya Kennedy and Hon Lynn R. Kotler, Co-Chairs**

*Queens County Criminal Matters Gender Fairness Committee  
(Supreme Court, Criminal Term, and Criminal Court)*  
**Hon. Marcia Hirsch and Hon. Pauline Mullings, Co-Chairs**

*The Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts of  
Queens Supreme Court- Civil Term*  
**Hon. Marguerite A. Grays**

*Staten Island Gender Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Barbara I. Panepinto and Hon. Karen A. Wolff, Chairs**

*Gender Fairness Committee, Bronx County Family Court*  
**Hon. Carol Sherman**

*New York Family Court Gender Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Gloria Sosa-Lintner**

*Queens County Family Court Gender Fairness Committee*  
**Hon. Margaret McGowan and Dr. June M. Briese, Co-Chairs**

# Chairs of Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees

## Courts Within New York City

**Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee**  
**Hon. Christopher Cahill, Co-Chair**  
Supreme Court, Ulster County  
285 Wall Street  
Kingston, NY 12401  
Ccahill@nycourts.gov

**Patricia Beeler, Co-Chair**  
Unified Court System (Ret.)  
Rensselaer County Family Court  
1504 Fifth Ave.  
Troy, NY 12180  
518-270-3761  
PBeeler@nycourts.gov

**Fourth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee**  
**Hon. Polly A. Hoye, Chair**  
Fulton County Office Building  
Room 216  
223 West Main Street  
Johnstown, NY 12095  
518-736-5691  
PHoye@nycourts.gov

**Tatiana Coffinger, Vice Chair**  
Principal Law Clerk  
Warren County Supreme Court  
1340 State Route 9  
Lake George, NY 12845  
518-761-6547  
TCoffing@nycourts.gov

**Elena Jaffe Tastenson, Esq., Vice Chair**  
358 Broadway, Suite 206  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
518-587-4419

**Eleanor DeCoursey, Esq., Vice Chair**  
113 Saratoga Road  
Glenville, NY 12302

**Fifth Judicial District Committee**  
**Hon. Deborah Karalunas, Chair**  
Supreme Court Justice  
Onondaga County Courthouse  
401 Montgomery Street, Room 401  
Syracuse, NY 13202  
315-671-1106  
DKaralun@nycourts.gov

**Sixth Judicial District Committee**  
**Hon. Molly Fitzgerald, Chair**  
Supreme Court Justice  
Broome Supreme Court  
92 Court Street  
P. O. Box 1766  
Binghamton, NY 13902  
607-240-5813  
mfitzgerald@nycourts.gov

**Seventh Judicial District Committee**  
**Hon. Teresa Johnson, Chair**  
Rochester City Court  
Hall of Justice  
99 Exchange Blvd.  
Rochester, NY 14614  
585-428-1904  
TJohnson@nycourts.gov

**Eighth Judicial District Gender & Racial Fairness Committee**  
**Hon. Jeannette Ogden, Chair**  
Buffalo City Court  
550 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
716-845-2647  
eogden@nycourts.gov

**Sharon Thomas, Vice Chair**  
Chief Clerk  
Buffalo City Court  
550 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
716-845-2652  
sthomas@nycourts.gov

**Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts**  
**Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Chair**  
Court of Claims  
140 Grand Street, Suite 507  
White Plains, NY 10601  
914-289-2310  
TRuderma@nycourts.gov

**Nassau County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts**  
**Hon. Julianne Capetola, Chair**  
Nassau County Family Court  
1200 Old Country Road  
Westbury, NY 11590  
516-493-3860  
JSEisman@nycourts.gov

**Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee**  
**Marian Tinari, Co-Chair**  
Suffolk County District  
Administrative Judge's Office  
Cohalan Court Complex  
400 Carleton Avenue  
Central Islip, NY 11722  
631-853-7534  
mtinari@nycourts.gov

**Cynthia Vargas, Co-Chair**  
1622 Brentwood Road  
Bay Shore, NY 11706  
631-666-0033  
cynvargas@optonline.net

## Courts Within New York City

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### NYC Family Court Committees

**Bronx**  
**Hon. Carol Sherman**  
Bronx Family Court  
900 Sheridan Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10451  
718-618-2216  
CRSHERMA@nycourts.gov

**Kings County**  
**Hon. Emily Olshansky**  
Kings County Family Court  
330 Jay Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
EOlshans@nycourts.gov

**New York County**  
**Hon. Gloria Sosa-Lintner**  
NY County Family Court  
60 Lafayette Street  
New York, NY 10016  
646-386-5118  
GSosaLin@nycourts.gov

**Queens County**  
**Hon. Margaret McGowan**  
Queens Family Court  
151-20 Jamaica Ave.  
Jamaica, NY 11432  
718-298-0219  
MMcGowan@nycourts.gov

**Staten Island**  
**Hon. Karen A. Wolff**  
Richmond County Family Court  
100 Richmond Terrace  
Staten Island, NY 10301  
718-675-8870  
kwolff@nycourts.gov

## Chairs of Local Gender Bias and Gender Fairness Committees

### *Bronx Committees*

#### **Gender Fairness Committee of the Twelfth Judicial District, Supreme Court Committee**

**Hon. Richard Lee Price, Chair**  
Supreme Court Justice  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, NY 10451  
718-590-3590  
RPRICE@nycourts.gov

#### **Hon. Josephine Bastone, Vice-Chair**

Court Referee  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, NY 10451  
718-618-1344  
JBastone@nycourts.gov

#### **Bronx County Civil Court Committee**

**Hon. Elizabeth Taylor**  
Bronx County Civil Court  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, NY 10451  
718-618-2548  
ETaylor@nycourts.gov

### *New York County Committees*

#### **Gender Fairness Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Term**

**Hon. Deborah Kaplan**  
Supreme Court  
60 Centre Street  
New York, NY 10007  
646-386-5567  
DKaplan@nycourts.gov

**Gregory Testa, Esq.**  
Supreme Court Law Dept.  
60 Centre Street  
New York, NY 10007  
646-386-3617  
GTesta@nycourts.gov

#### **NY County Civil Court Committee**

**Hon. Tanya Kennedy**  
Supervising Judge, Civil Court  
111 Centre Street  
New York, NY 10013  
646-386-5414  
TKennedy@nycourts.gov

#### **Hon. Lynn R. Kotler**

New York Civil Court  
111 Centre Street, Room 641  
New York, NY 10013  
646-386-5721  
LKotler@nycourts.gov

#### **Gender Bias Committee, NY County, Supreme Court, Criminal Term**

**Hon. Bonnie Wittner**  
Supreme Court  
111 Centre Street, Room 739  
New York, NY 10013  
646-386-4426  
BWittner@nycourts.gov

#### **NY County Criminal Court Committee**

**Hon. Lisa Sokoloff**  
100 Centre Street  
New York, NY 10013  
646-386-4743  
LSokolof@nycourts.gov

### *Kings County Committees*

#### **Kings County Gender Fairness Committee**

(Supreme Court, Civil Term)  
**Hon. Gloria Dabiri**  
360 Adams Street, Room 370  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
347-296-1536  
GDabiri@nycourts.gov

#### **Kings County Civil Court Committee**

**Hon. Genine D. Edwards**  
Kings Court Civil Court  
141 Livingston Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
347-404-9095  
GDEdward@nycourts.gov

#### **Kings County Supreme Court Criminal Term Committee**

**Hon. Patricia Henry**  
320 Jay Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
347-296-1366  
PHenry@nycourts.gov

#### **Kings County Criminal Court Committee**

**Hon. Dena Douglas**  
Criminal Court  
120 Schermerhorn Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
347-404-9483  
DDouglas@nycourts.gov

### *Queens County Committees*

#### **Queens County, Supreme Court, Civil Term Committee**

**Hon. Marguerite A. Grays**  
Supreme Court  
88-11 Sutphin Blvd.  
Jamaica, NY 11435  
718-298-1212  
MGrays@nycourts.gov

#### **Queens County, Criminal Committee**

(Supreme Court and Criminal Court)

#### **Hon. Marcia Hirsch, Co-Chair**

Queens Supreme Court  
125-01 Queens Blvd.  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415  
718-298-1435  
MHirsch@nycourts.gov

#### **Hon. Pauline Mullings, Co-Chair**

Queens Criminal Court Building  
125-01 Queens Blvd.  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415  
718-298-0930  
pmulling@nycourts.gov

### *Richmond County Committee*

#### **Hon. Barbara I. Panepinto**

Supreme Court Justice  
18 Richmond Terrace  
Staten Island, NY 10301  
718-876-6424  
BPanepin@nycourts.gov

*Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Christopher Cahill, Chair**

**Patricia Beeler, Co-Chair**

## LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

2013 - 2014

**Name of the Committee:** Third Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee

**Name and Title of Chair:** Co-chairs Christopher E. Cahill, JSC and Patricia Beeler, UCS (ret.)

**Members:** See attached list.

**Dates of Meetings:** 1/17/13, 5/15/13, 9/18/13, 1/23/14; future meetings: 5/29/14 and 9/18/14.

**Average Attendance:** 15

**Do you use Video Conferencing?:** No for meetings but yes for webinars, e.g. "A Community's Response to Addressing the Complexities of Women's Use of Force in Their Intimate Heterosexual Relationships" at 9/18/13 meeting.

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:** The Committee co-sponsored a district-wide employee "Wear Purple Day." Also, Committee member, The Legal Project, participated in tabling domestic violence materials at satellite branches of the Albany PD in October 2013. The GFC also committed to developing written materials to be made available to both attorneys and advocates which will provide information about such issues as confidentiality and victim safety. **Activities for Women's History Month 2013:** The Committee co-sponsored, together with several other organizations such as the Capital District Women's Bar Association, a March 26, 2013 film screening of the film "Miss Representation" together with a panel program that discussed, post screening, the issues raised in the film. This event took place at Russell Sage College in Troy and was well attended. Committee member, Hon. Helena Heath-Roland, Albany City Court Judge, was one of the panel moderators.

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.** Russell Sage College was the primary marketer and advertiser of the "Miss Representation" event. A flyer is attached. By all reports it was very well attended. The "Wear Purple" event was publicized via a district-wide memo from the Administrative Judge. Many district employees participated.

**Other Activities in the Past Year:** Many of our members are active year round in other activities not related to the Committee, but nevertheless relate to the mission and goals of the Committee.

**What are your plans for 2014?** At our May 2014 meeting, we will be having a presentation on transgender issues and in September, Marc Levine, the Chair of the Gay/Straight Alliance of the NYS Courts, will be speaking to us on issues relating to the activities and goals of the Alliance. As alluded to above, we also plan to develop, publish and distribute a brochure that addresses the roles and relationships of advocates and attorneys in DV cases so that they can have an effective working relationship. Member Lisa Frisch, head of

The Legal Project, has tasked TLP's interns and fellows from Albany Law School with developing a draft brochure for the Committee's review. We also have program ideas for the following topics: The Family Court Response to Teen Victims of DV; Stalking and Electronic Harassment; Justice for Same Gender Partners—The Court's Response; Military Victims of DV and Sexual Assault; and, Veterans' Courts and DV Courts: Safety and Accountability Issues.

**What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?** See topics listed above regarding our plans for 2014. Also, members of the Committee share the concern that the gains made in the areas of gender fairness and diversity over recent decades in the Court system and in the nation generally not be jeopardized going forward.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e.g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?** Yes—a lack of adequate and affordable supervised visitation centers. Family Court child care centers are the first to go in budget cutting, but are extremely important in supporting access to justice for women and families. Furthermore, need exists for ongoing training in DV and sexual assault for the judiciary and court staff.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse?** Continued focus on DV is always welcome. In addition, topics addressing how to deal with litigants with psychological and/or alcohol/drug problems would be helpful. These are often at the core of DV issues and often disadvantage women litigants. Finally, again also see above the topics listed under our plans for 2014.

**Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?** Yes.

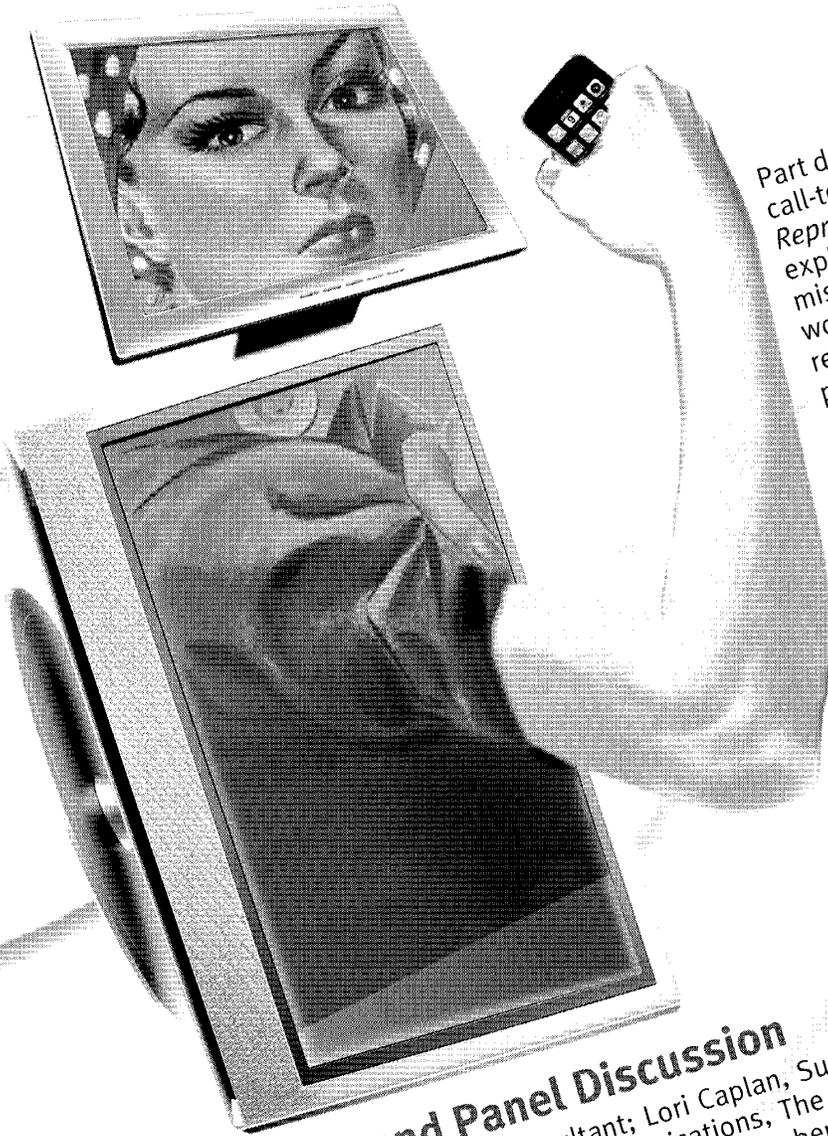
**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects?** Yes. If so, please list: Too numerous to list all, but for example: the Capital District Womens Bar Association, Albany Law School and Russell Sage College. For Women's History Month 2014, we are again partnering with the Capital District Women's Bar Association to present Miss Representation since last year's program was so successful. This year, the screening and panel program will be held on March 25 at Albany Law School, with the panelists including Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan, Dean Penelope Andrews of Albany Law School and Dina Refki of the Center for Women in Government at Rockefeller College (University at Albany).

**What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?** Program ideas are always helpful. Also, please consider conducting a webinar once a year or so addressing a topic of common interest to all the committees, eg best practices or challenges or problems which we all face.

**Is there anything else you would like to submit?** We would like to note that our member, Hon. Rachel Kretser, Albany City Court Judge, was recently elected Chair of the Judiciary Section of the NYSBA.

# MISS REPRESENTATION

a documentary film by Jennifer Siebel Newsom



Part documentary and part call-to-action, the *Miss Representation* project explores how the media's misrepresentations of women have led to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence. The panel will discuss how to build different aspirations for young women – and expectations among their male counterparts – by incorporating change not only in the academic curriculum, but also in the cultures of our schools and communities.

## Screening and Panel Discussion

PANELISTS: Jennifer Bryan, Psychologist and Educational Consultant; Lori Caplan, Superintendent, Watervliet City Schools; Penny Perkins, Assistant Professor Of Communications, The Sage Colleges; Susan Scrimshaw, President, The Sage Colleges; and Bob Winchester, Board Member, Niskayuna Board of Education

MODERATED BY: Albany City Court Judge Helena Heath-Roland and Director, Helen M. Upton Center for Women's Studies, Russell Sage College, Shealeen Meaney

**Tuesday, March 26 | 6 pm | Bush Memorial Center | Russell Sage College**  
65 1st St., Troy, NY 12180 | Corner of Congress and First Streets | Park in lot at corner of First and Division Streets  
6 pm Reception | 6:30 pm Screening of *Miss Representation* | 8 pm Panel Discussion  
Free and open to the public

SPONSORED BY:



**Russell Sage College**

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE  
Helen M. Upton Center for Women's Studies  
Office of Student Development

*Fourth Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Polly A. Hoye, Chair**

**Tatiana Coffinger, Vice-Chair**

**Elena Jaffe Tastenson, Esq. Vice-Chair**

**Eleanor DeCoursey, Esq., Vice-Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**2013 – 2014**

Name of the Committee: 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Women in the Courts

Name and Title of Chair: Judge Polly Hoye (Fulton County)

Members – Tatiana Coffinger, Court Attorney (Warren/Washington Counties); Eleanor DeCoursay, private attorney (Schenectady County); Elena Jaffe Tastensen (Saratoga County).

Dates of Meetings: Due to the geographic distance between us, we have been exchanging ideas and information via email, which seems to work best for us.

Average Attendance: N/A

Do you use Video Conferencing? No

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:

Fulton County: Sept. 30, 2013: "Walk Against Violence" (see attached flyer);  
October 16, 2013: "Wear Purple Day" (see attached flyer).

Saratoga County: October 12, 2013: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Purple Pooch Parade to promote DV Awareness

Warren County: October, 2013: "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence" (see attached news article).

Activities for Women's History Month 2013: None.

How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.

The events listed in this report were not marketed by our committee, but instead by the various groups which sponsored them, such as domestic violence service providers.

Other Activities in the Past Year:

Fulton/Montgomery Counties: -February 23, 2013: DV Awareness and fundraiser event at Fulton Montgomery Community College, including live production of the "Vagina Monologues", silent auction and information table (See attached newspaper article);  
-March 11, 2013: "Proclamation Declaring 4/21/13-4/27/13 as "Crime Victims' Rights Week in Fulton County" (see attached proclamation).  
-April 22, 2013: "Living On Three Spoons", Open House and Book Signing, in recognition of National Crime Victims' Rights Week (see attached flyer)  
-May 9, 2013: "ASPIRE" presentation to junior high school students, sponsored by Soroptimists to instruct youths, especially girls, about the dangers of irresponsible online contact (see attached news article).  
-May, 2013: Presentation to Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown branch of AAUW on domestic violence and donation of "Hugs Bears" for children in shelters (see attached news article).

Saratoga County: -February 9, 2013: 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Bartenders' Ball to benefit Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services of Saratoga County (DVRC).

- February 28, 2013: "Go Red For Women", sponsored by Adirondack Women's Bar Association (see attached flyer).
- May 21, 2013: "Rape or Regret: A Jury's Dilemma", a film produced as an educational tool for students, sponsored by Saratoga DVRC.
- June 9, 2013: "Take a Closer Look at Relationship Abuse" exhibit at the Tang Museum, Skidmore College.
- June 19, 2013: "123 Sole Survivor": DVRC collected 123 pairs of shoes representing each sexual assault victim served in 2012. The shoes were displayed in various public places. At each location, photos were taken to memorialize the visual extent of sexual assault in Saratoga County.
- August 2013: Chico's Clothing store partnered with National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) and DVRC of Saratoga County to provide jeans for survivors of domestic violence. Customers donating gently worn jeans received discounts and a portion of each purchase was donated to DVRC.

St. Lawrence County: -April 23, 2013: Community Education Day, "How advocates and bystanders can collaborate in sexual violence prevention", sponsored by Renewal House and Catholic Charities (Canton, NY).

Warren County: -May 22, 2013: "Domestic Violence: The Workplace Responds"; presented by Domestic Violence Workplace Initiative; 2 seminars focusing on domestic violence issues in the workplace, Queensbury Hotel, Glens Falls, NY (see attached notice).

What are your plans for 2014?

-We will be working with the area Soroptimist clubs to try to expand the ASPIRE program (see above) to more schools in the area. For 2104, there are plans to present this program to 2 different schools in the Fulton/Montgomery Counties area. The Soroptimist Clubs in Fulton, Saratoga and Schenectady Counties are also very active in working with domestic violence service providers to raise funds and awareness of domestic violence issues in the community.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?

-Equal access to the courts regardless of financial constraints; reinforcement of respect and fair treatment of all.

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?

-Childcare is always an issue for litigants; there are no facilities in our district to assist parent or grandparent litigants with childcare when coming to court.

-There is also a shortage of agencies that can provide a venue for supervised visitation. There is a tremendous need for additional pro bono assistance for litigants (not just women) in matrimonial actions, foreclosures and other cases affecting financial issues of indigent litigants.

-At least one of the Family Court waiting areas in the district consists of one room which lacks a partition, requiring family offense victims to face their abusers while waiting for their cases to be called.

What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse?  
Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?

-Online viewing or videoconferencing could be useful but sometimes in the northern areas of the district, the connections are poor.

Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects? If so, please list.

-We work with the Adirondack Women's Bar Association, local bar associations, and women's groups like the Soroptimist clubs to promote and coordinate events. In Fulton County, we are working with Legal Aid of Northeastern New York to expand private attorney involvement in pro bono work in exchange for CLE credits to participating attorneys.

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

Our judicial district is geographically the largest in the state and is quite rural in most areas. It is difficult to coordinate events district-wide because of this.

Respectfully submitted,

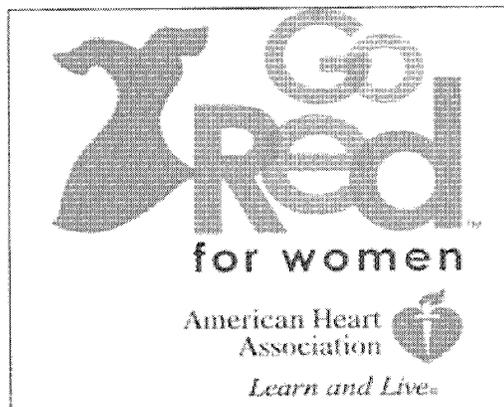
4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts,  
Polly A. Hoye, Chair

To:  
Charlotte A. Watson, Executive Director, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts,  
25 Beaver St., Rm 1129, New York, NY 10004  
[cawatson@nycourts.gov](mailto:cawatson@nycourts.gov)

# ADIRONDACK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

A Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York  
FOUNDED 2003

Proudly presents the fourth annual  
fundraiser benefiting



You are cordially invited to the fourth annual  
Go Red for Women fundraiser

Sponsored by the Adirondack Women's Bar Association  
Details:

**Thursday, February 28, 2013 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.**

**Longfellows  
500 Union Avenue  
Saratoga Springs, New York**

**\$30 at the door proceeds to benefit Go Red  
for Women!**

## Highlights

- ◆ Dr. Sulagna "Suzie" Mookherjee - Guest speaker from the American Heart Association
- ◆ Raffle items donated by local vendors
- ◆ Light hors d'oeuvres
- ◆ Cocktails

**RSVP Meghan Deltry 281-6812 or [deltrym@hotmail.com](mailto:deltrym@hotmail.com)**

**Event underwritten by:**



Cardiology  
Associates of  
Schenectady

New Challenges • New Solutions

*Please join us for an Open House & Book  
Signing*

**WITH AUTHOR SUSAN TORRES**

**"Living On Three Spoons"**



**Monday April 22, 2013 at 3:00 pm**

**Fulton County Office Building (Basement Mtg Room #1)  
223 W. Main St., Johnstown N.Y. 12095**

*In Recognition of National Crime Victims Rights Week*

*Sponsored by The Fulton County District Attorney's Office and  
Domestic Violence Task Force*

Enjoy some light refreshments while getting your copy of the book signed. Also on display will be the Historical Overview of Crime Victims Rights in America dating back to 1965.

**Please contact DA Victim Services Coordinator Stephanie Porter for any further info:**  
telephone: (518) 736-5511 or by email: [sporter@co.fulton.ny.us](mailto:sporter@co.fulton.ny.us)

PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 21, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 27, 2013 AS  
"CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK IN FULTON COUNTY"

WHEREAS, the 1984 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) affirmed our nation's commitment to helping crime victims rebuild their lives; and

WHEREAS, VOCA established the Crime Victims Fund, a non-taxpayer funding source, which continues today to provide critical support to victim compensation and community victim assistance programs throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, VOCA and countless other laws and policies reflect the tremendous progress that has been made over the past four decades in securing legal rights, protections, and services for victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, today thousands of victim assistance programs provide help and support to child victims of violence and sexual abuse; stalking victims; survivors of homicide victims; victims of drunk-driving crashes; and victims of domestic, dating and sexual violence and other crimes; and

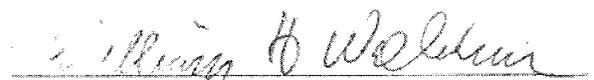
WHEREAS, by highlighting the enactment of critical federal and state laws, the growth of national and community victim service organizations, the release of ground-breaking reports that focus national attention on crime victim assistance strategies and expanding the nation's capacity to help victims rebuild their lives, crime victims are receiving the services necessary to assist them in their time of need; and

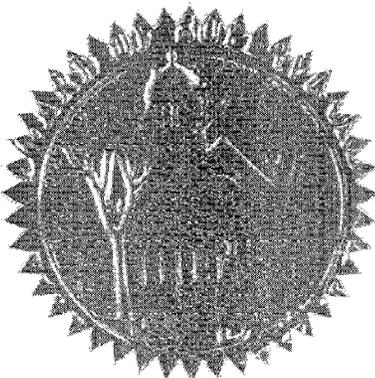
WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice, through the Vision 21 initiative, calls for a renewed commitment to serving all victims of crime in the 21<sup>st</sup> century; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims April 21 through April 27, 2013 "Crime Victims' Rights Week" in Fulton County and encourages all County residents to participate in community awareness events during "National Crime Victims' Rights Week" and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes crime victims, victim advocates, and many others who have worked tirelessly to bring hope to the millions of individuals, families and communities harmed by crime.

Dated Under my Hand and Seal  
This 11<sup>th</sup> Day of March 2013

  
WILLIAM H. WALDRON  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Fulton County



# ONLINE SAFETY

## Soroptimist program offers students advice

By ARTHUR CLEVELAND

The Leader-Herald

JOHNSTOWN — Knox Junior High School student Clinton Cionek never has been a victim of "cyberbullying," but he says he knows of other young people who have been bullied online. On Thursday, Cionek and other Knox students learned about issues related to cyberbullying and how victims can get help from teachers and other adults.

"Some didn't know they could actually go for help if they are being bullied on the Internet," Cionek said of the students.

The students Thursday increased

their awareness of cyberbullying thanks to a program presented by the Fulton County Soroptimists.

The program, A Soroptimist Program to Inspire Real Self-Esteem, or ASPIRE, strives to teach young people, especially girls, about the dangers of irresponsible online contact.

Organizers of the program present it at local schools. On Thursday, it came to Knox.

The program included presentations by Investigator Tom Northrup of the Computer Crimes Unit of the New York State Police and Fulton County District Attorney Louise Sira.

After the presentations, girls and

boys broke off into separate groups. The students learned about safe use of the Internet and problems regarding cyberbullying.

Sandy Peters, chairwoman of the ASPIRE committee and a past president of the Soroptimists of Fulton County, said the program was developed as a community outreach program in 2008.

"Over the course of the last several years, we have made the rounds to most of the Fulton County schools, either with the full assembly program or the broken-down program," Peters said.

PROGRAM — On Page 7



The Leader-Herald/Arthur Cleveland  
ASPIRE program chairwoman Sandy Peters speaks with students at Knox Junior High School on Thursday about Internet safety.



Above, Fulton County District Attorney Louise Sira speaks with students at Knox Junior High School on Thursday as part of the ASPIRE program.

At right, ASPIRE volunteer Tim Northrup, an

## Program promotes online safety

Continued from Page 1

Separating the youths by gender allows presenters to speak with the youths individually.

"There is a major reason to have that separate program for the girls, who are seven times more likely to be subjected to cyberbullying or victimization over the Internet or their cell phones," Peters said.

The program presented to students talked about some of the examples of what constitutes cyberbullying and what children should look out for when encountering a stranger on the Internet.

Northrup said technology in the hands of minors is becoming more advanced. "The days of the flip phone are gone," Northrup said. Many times, Northrup said, he has had to work with victims of cyberbullying or people who had been in contact with a possible sex offender on the Internet.

nounced effects on the victims, he said. It can lead to depression, withdrawn social contact, anxiety and possibly suicide, he said.

"Think about what you are doing with the technical skills you have," Northrup told students.

"Sexting," the sending of sexually explicit photos by text message, is another problem today.

Northrup said people engaged in this activity can be charged with creating and possessing underage pornography.

Sira said as a prosecutor, she meets many people involved in cases related to cyberbullying and online predators.

"It is a lot more fun to come and speak to you in your own setting than have to meet you later on as a victim," Sira said.

"We don't know who we are talking to when we are online all the time," Sira said.

lee praised the program.

"It seemed like a very timely program for all the students," Satterlee said. "... Obviously for something they all have to deal with daily, with technology the way it is, communication they deal with all the time, the more aware we can make them about the things they are dealing with, the safer we can make them."

Leader -  
Herald  
Newspaper  
5/13/2013

**From:** "Adirondack Women's Bar Association" <adirondack.womens.bar@gmail.com>  
**To:** Adirondack Womens Bar <Adirondack.womens.bar@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 4/30/2013 9:17 AM  
**Subject:** Domestic Violence in the Workplace Seminars

The Domestic Violence Workplace Initiative is presenting two seminars focusing on domestic violence issues in the workplace on May 22, 2013 at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls. For more information and to register for these seminars, please use the link below.

[Domestic Violence: The Workplace Responds information and registration](#)

The AWBA is a proud sponsor of these seminars.

## ADIRONDACK WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

A Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York  
*Founded 2003*

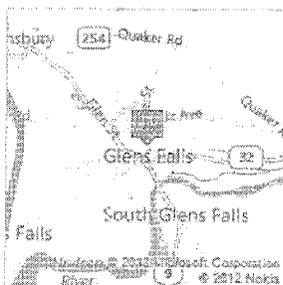
### When

Wednesday May 22, 2013 from 7:00 AM to 1:30 PM  
EST

[Add to Calendar](#)

### Where

The Queensbury Hotel  
88 Ridge Street  
Glens Falls, NY 12001



### Driving Directions

### Contact

Jeanne Noerdoy  
Domestic Violence Project of Catholic Charities  
518-783-5212 ex 23  
dvccc@epa.net

DVWI Mission: Domestic Violence Workplace Initiative (DVWI) is a community based group of leaders and victims' advocates in Warren and Washington Counties working together to raise awareness and provide tools to address domestic violence in the workplace.

DVWI Leaders: Glens Falls National Bank, Hamel Resources, LLC, Tri-County United Way, Washington County Public Health, Domestic Violence Project of Catholic Charities.

DVWI is a project of the Domestic Violence Community Coordination Council (DVCCC), which is convened by the Domestic Violence Project, a program of Catholic Charities.

## Domestic Violence: The Workplace Responds

Presented by: Domestic Violence Workplace Initiative

Event Sponsors: Warren County District Attorney Hon. Kathleen B. Hogan; Hamel Resources, L.L.C.; Adirondack Women's Bar Association; Cheryl L. Govern, Esq.; NY State Coalition Against Domestic Violence/DELTA Project

**Morning Session:** Registration and Breakfast 7:00 am, Presentation 7:30 to 9:00. "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: IT'S A WORKPLACE ISSUE" Despite the term 'domestic,' research tells us this is clearly a workplace issue. Learn how to protect your workforce and your bottom line.

**Noon Session:** Registration and Lunch 11:30 am, Presentation noon to 1:30 pm. "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, STALKING AND BULLYING IN THE WORKPLACE" Learn about the links between these workplace issues, response and prevention strategies, and how workplaces can become a community partner in the solution.

Cost per person: \$18 Morning Session, \$28 Noon Session. Cost to attend both sessions: \$46 per person  
Table of Eight (8): \$140 Morning Session, \$220 Noon Session

Registration Deadline is May 10, 2013.

Please print out your registration form and return with payment by May 10, 2013. Thank you

**Register Now!**





Photo submitted

Linda Horan from the Family Counseling Center recently spoke about domestic violence at a meeting of the Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown branch of the American Association of University Women at the Holiday Inn in Johnstown. From left are Helen James, organizer of Hugs Across America, Horan, Ginni Mazur and Anne Campos, AAUW's co-vice presidents for branch programming

Leader - Herald  
Newspaper  
5/28/2013

# AAUW chapter meeting hears talk on violence, donates to local shelter

JOHNSTOWN – The Amsterdam-Gloversville-Johnstown branch of the American Association of University Women recently heard a presentation by Linda Horan, coordinator of domestic violence programs for the Family Counseling Center.

Horan discussed the cycle of violence that is the predictable path that a relationship takes when violence is likely to occur. She also discussed the legal and emotional path that victims might take and informed the AAUW group about the operation of the Domestic Violence Safe House as a haven for victims in Fulton County.

Since the facility depends on volunteer donations for the upkeep and operation of the house, the local AAUW branch made a "donation of care," according to a news release. Members donated money along with household items such as sheets, towels, cleaning products and kitchen items for the safe house.

In addition, Hugs Across America teddy bears were donated for the children who come to the safe house. The Hugs



Photo submitted

Household items and Hugs Across America Bears donated to the Fulton County Domestic Violence Safe House by the local AAUW branch are displayed at the Holiday Inn.

Across America program is a not-for-profit charity that brings comfort to children in crisis through hugs of teddy bears with messages of hope and care. The local AAUW branch donated to purchase Hugs Bears, which were sent to New York City for victims of Hurricane Sandy. The AAUW branch has additional

Hugs Bears to be given locally to children in crisis. Students at Fulton-Montgomery Community College assisted in preparing tags with messages and attaching them to the Hugs Bears as part of an AAUW student organization activity.

Domestic Violence was the focus of the New York State AAUW District IV conference, motivating the local branch to focus its recent meeting on this topic. Anne Campos was in charge of organizing the meeting. Helen Thomas-James was chairwoman for the teddy bear donations

Submit your news online at  
[www.leaderherald.com](http://www.leaderherald.com)

**Monday September 30, 2013**

(Rain date Tuesday October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013)

*Save the date! Mark your calendars!*

The Fulton County Domestic Violence Task Force announces  
our annual

**“Walk Against Violence”**



2012 WALK (Photos courtesy of the Leader Herald)

**Bring a friend, and show your support!**

Please join us to send the message that our community doesn't tolerate Domestic Abuse!

*Wear purple, the Domestic Violence Awareness color and bring a sign with your message!*

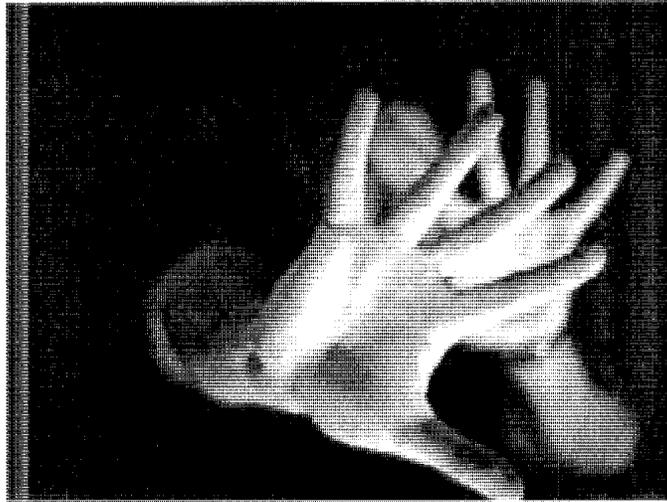
**TIME: 4:00 PM**

**WHERE: Johnstown, N.Y.**

We will walk from THE TREE OF HOPE, in front of the Fulton County Courthouse, Johnstown, to a ½ way point at HFM Prevention Council and end at St. John's Episcopal Church, 1 North Market St, Johnstown with light refreshments.

***PLEASE MAKE IT EASY TO READ!!***

Created 7/29/13 by LH



*In honor of  
Domestic Violence Awareness Month  
October 16, 2013 is WEAR PURPLE DAY!!*

*Please show your support in raising awareness by  
adding some PURPLE to your day!!*

*We are hoping for a Great turn out for this!!  
Please Join Us!!!!*

## Honoring domestic violence victims

OCTOBER 16, 2013 9:00 PM

If you've noticed a distinct purple hue to the Warren County Sheriff's Office's headquarters during recent nights, there's a good reason.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and the color purple has been chosen to signify the month and honor victims.

The Sheriff's Office wanted to light the building up in observance.

Sheriff's Lt. Steve Stockdale said the effort was aided by BMI Supply of Queensbury, which donated celluloid coverings for spotlights that point at the front of the building.

"We were going to pay for them, but once we told them what they were for, they wouldn't take our money," Stockdale said.

— Don Lehman

## Event at college raises cash, awareness of domestic abuse

By JOHN BORGOLINI  
The Leader-Herald

JOHNSTOWN — In a continuing effort to raise awareness of domestic abuse, Fulton-Montgomery Community College hosted two showings of the "Vagina Monologues" on Saturday, along with a silent auction of items donated to support the cause.

The event was organized by Sonnet Gravina, a mathematics professor at the college, and the proceeds went to Montgomery County Domestic Violence and Crime Victim Services and the Family Counseling Center's Domestic Violence Program in Fulton County.

Gravina said she was pleased with how the event was progressing Saturday afternoon.

"I have always wanted to do this production," she said after the matinee performance. "I used to live in Utah, and they wouldn't let me do it there. So I came here and asked [FM theater arts professor] Jason Radalin if he would be interested, and he said he'd love to do it."

"The Vagina Monologues," by Tony Award-winning playwright, performer and activist Eve Ensler, has been translated into more than 48 languages and performed in more than 140 countries.

Gravina explained the play is intended to be shocking in a thought-provoking way, and its subject matter stimulates conversation about domestic violence and other issues.

"I think domestic violence is a very important but often overlooked cause," she said. "This helps to raise awareness and helps raise money for the [local efforts]."

Members of the Fulton County Domestic Violence Program hosted a table to inform the community about services available for victims of domestic violence.

Director Linda Horan said she knows events like the one at FM have an impact, because the program gets more phone calls after each one.

"It is helpful to get the information out to the community," Horan said.

Victims of abuse who call the program are counseled about what course of action might be best for them. The program operates a shelter for women who need to remove themselves from abusive relationships.

"Each individual we would deal with differently, because each individual's problem is different," Horan said. "We make sure that we cover safety planning with them ... And if they don't want to stay [at our shelter] anymore, we make sure they have a safety plan in place."



The Leader-Hera

The cast of FM's production of "The Vagina Monologues" for a group photo at the college Saturday.

Leader Herald 2-24-13

*Fifth Judicial District Committee on Women in the Courts*

**Hon. Deborah Karalunas, Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2013 – 2014**  
**Fifth Judicial District**

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

**Name and Title of Chair:** Honorable Deborah H. Karalunas, J.S.C.

**Members:**

Tania S. Anderson, Esq. (Principal Law Clerk to Hon. Deborah H. Karalunas)  
Hannah Arterian (Dean, Syracuse University College of Law)  
Christine M. Barry, Esq. (Support Magistrate)  
Fran Ciardullo, Esq. (Private practitioner)  
Karen DeCrow, Esq. (Private practitioner)  
Timothy J. Fennell, Esq. (Private practitioner)  
Cindy Granger, Esq. (Private practitioner)  
Mary Iocovozzi, Esq. (Private practitioner)  
Hon. Deborah H. Karalunas (Supreme Court Justice)  
Loretta Kilpatrick, Esq. (Principal Law Clerk to Hon. Donald Greenwood)  
Bonnie Gail Levy, Esq. (Assistant Attorney General)  
Maureen Maney, Esq. (Private practitioner; President WBASNY)  
Doren Norfleet, Esq. (Private practitioner)  
Hon. Michelle Pirro Bailey (Family Court Judge)  
Lisa A. Proven, Esq. (Private practitioner)  
Graceanne Snyder Quinn, Esq. (Private practitioner)  
Kurt R. Sherman, Esq. (Principal Law Clerk to Hon. Martha Walsh Hood)  
Hon. James C. Tormey (Administrative Judge, Fifth Judicial District)  
Lucia Whiseanand, Esq. (Private practitioner)

**Dates of Meetings:** January 31, 2013

**Average Attendance:** Four

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** No

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:** None

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:** None (but see other activities listed below)

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.**

See below.

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

Law Day Celebration: "Women and the Law: Then and Now." See attached program materials.

**What are your plans for 2014?**

We hope to complete work on a program that will provide an overview of the courts and legal services to the refugee populations in two of the six counties in the Fifth Judicial District.

**What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?**

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?**

Reduction in the operational hours of the child care center as well the earlier courthouse closing is impacting the Family Court's ability to schedule and hear cases.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?**

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects? If so, please list:**

Yes. We have worked with local bar associations, Vera House and the International Center of Syracuse. In the coming year, we plan to work with Vera House and the bureau of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance.

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

Nothing at this time, thank you.

**Is there anything else you would like to submit?**

Not at this time.

**Fifth Judicial District**  
**Women in the Courts Committee**

Minutes of the January 31, 2013 Meeting

Present: Hon. Deborah H. Karalunas, Chair, Christine Berry, Esq., Karen DeCrow, Esq., Timothy Fennell, Esq.

**I. Introductions**

Judge Karalunas called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**II. Old Business**

Update on Women's History Program

Christine Berry reported that she is making progress with arrangements to perform *Susan B* in Oneida County. She is working with Judge Griffith who is in charge of Oneida County's Law Day. They hope to do the reading on the day that Oneida County celebrates Law Day. Christine reported that Judge Donalty's law clerk is an actor. He has the script and is working on securing readers.

Tim Fennell reported that Doren Norfleet is retiring from practice but she will work with Tim to arrange a performance of *Susan B* in Oswego County. Tim will attempt to secure April 11 or April 12 for a lunchtime performance at the Oswego County Courthouse. Christine will forward a copy of the modified script to Tim and he will work with Doren to locate readers.

Judge Karalunas emailed the playwright, Gary Lehmann to update him on the status of the Oswego and Oneida County readings. She will keep Gary informed so he can attend the readings if his scheduled permits.

Update on Refugee Program

Christine is waiting to hear back from Jean Skahan regarding the program(s) we are hopeful to run with the Refugee Center's assistance. The programs suggested by Ms. Skahan include: (1) sensitivity training for the court employees. Judge Tormey has approved this training provided there is no cost to the court system; (2) tours of the courthouse to include presentations and jurisdictional overviews by a support magistrate, a referee, a Family Court Judge, a Supreme Court Justice, and a Surrogate's Court Judge; (3) a law training at the refuge center covering parenting in the United States, domestic violence, and out-of-control teenagers.

**III. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30. The next meeting will be February 27, 2013 at 12:00. Judge Karalunas will arrange a Meeting Place conference call.

Received  
Chambers  
Hon. Deborah Kaufman

MAY 06 2013

Supreme Court  
Cattaraugus County

**Law Day 2013 Itinerary**

- 8:15-9:00        **Students arrive and proceed to Ceremonial Courtroom**
- 9:00-9:05       **Welcome and Introduction by Judge Griffith**
- 9:05-9:50       **The presentation of the play "Susan B."**

Based on the life events of Susan B. Anthony.  
 Susan B. Anthony was born in Adams, Mass. on February 15, 1820.  
 Her family thereafter moved to Rochester, New York when Ms. Anthony was  
 a young lady. She became a teacher who taught students for 15 years and  
 then dedicated her life to woman suffrage.  
 Today you will hear about an event that happened to Ms. Anthony when she  
 tried to vote at a time when women were not allowed to vote.  
 [ She died on March 13, 1906. She never saw the passage of the amendment  
 allowing women to vote in 1920.]

The play "Susan B." is being performed by a group from the Players of  
 Utica who have named themselves "Players to Go".

The play is directed by Joanne Mox.

Without further delay, the play entitled "Susan B."

- 9:50-9:55       **[ When the play is done, the cast members will exit the back door near Judge  
 Donalty's office. They then will come around and enter the Ceremonial  
 courtroom from the side hallway. Judge Griffith will then introduce the cast]**

As I say your name I would ask that you step forward:

Susan B. Anthony is played .....by Nicki Jones.  
 Elizabeth Cady Stanton..... Judy Jones  
 Judge Ward Hunt..... John Mox  
 Judge Selden..... Paul Herson  
 Prosecutor Richard Crowley..... Vince Scalise  
 Mr. Jones..... Carl Austin  
 Mr. March and Marshal Keeley..... Paul Serianni  
 Mr. Hull and Clerk of the Court..... Hedy Hage

Any questions?

- 9:55-10:00       **5 minute break  
 Time for us to reset the front of the room.**

- 10:00-10:30       **Presentation from Mary Chapin  
 A woman who has been very devoted and dedicated to the  
 League of Women Voters. Indeed she has been the past president of the  
 League of Women Voters. She is also an historian, a women's rights  
 advocate, an educator, an author of historical plays, a trustee of MVCC, a  
 local Talk show host, and chair person of the Mohawk Valley Women's  
 History Project.**

10:30-10:35 Questions from the Audience?

10:35 - 10:40 Reset of the room for panel discussion.  
(Here you may have Mark Wolber do his presentation).

10:45- 11:35 Panel Discussion:

**Dean Penelope Andrews:**

Dean and President of Albany Law School in Albany New York  
Also, the author of the book :From Cape Town to Kabul: Rethinking  
Strategies for Pursuing Women's Human Rights

**Supreme Court Justice Deborah Karalunas:**

A graduate of Cornell University and Syracuse University College of Law,  
she was elected to the Supreme Court in 2002 and is the presiding justice of  
the Commercial Division in Onondaga County. She is also the chair of the  
Women in the Courts Committee for the Fifth Judicial District and is  
responsible for the presentation of the play "Susan B" which you saw  
today.

**Attorney Karen DeCrow:**

Ms. DeCrow is an American feminist attorney, author and activist who was  
president of the National Organization for Women from 1974 to 1977. She  
worked to ensure that collegiate sports would be included under the scope  
of Title IX.

**Support Magistrate Christine Barry:**

Support Magistrate Christine Barry is a graduate of Syracuse University  
Undergraduate and Syracuse University College of Law.

Ms. Barry served as a Law Clerk to the late Honorable James Morgan.  
She was appointed as a Support Magistrate in Oneida County Family Court  
in 1998. She is active in the Women in the Courts Committee for the Fifth  
Judicial District.

**Clerk of the Appellate Division -Fourth Department**

**Frances E. Cafarell**

Born and raised in Utica, New York. She holds a Master's degree in  
Administration of Justice from American University, a Bachelor's degree in  
Broadcast Journalism from Syracuse University and a Law degree from  
Albany Law School. She was appointed Clerk of the Appellate Division -  
Fourth Department in December 2011.

11:35-11:45 Question & Answer

11:45-11:50 Wrap Up & Dismissal by Judge Griffith  
Thank everyone - dismiss students.  
Students to go to the Radisson.

# Welcome to Law Day



Welcome . . . . . Hon. James R. Griffith

Pledge of Allegiance . . . . . Led by Judge Griffith

Invocation . . . . . Pastor Jay G. Williams, III, Esq.

Recognition of the NYS Bar Association Mock Trial  
Winners from area High Schools  
by: Joseph A. DeTraglia, Esq.,  
President of the Oneida County Bar Association

## 1<sup>st</sup> Place

**Notre Dame High School**  
Teacher/Coach: . . . . . Paul Hanley  
Lawyer/Coach: . . . . . Dawn Catera Lupi, Esq.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

**T. R. Proctor High School**  
Teacher/Coach: . . . . . Karen Gavigan  
Lawyer/Coach: . . . . . Peter J. DiGiorgio, Jr., Esq.

# Presentation of the Hugh R. Jones Award

Introduction by Hon. Louis P. Gigliotti, *Oneida County Surrogate*  
Remarks by recipient Michael E. Getnick, Esq.



## Program

Introductions. . . . . Hon. James R. Griffith  
Guest Presentation . . . . . Frances E. Cafarell, Esq.,  
*Native of Utica & Clerk of the Appellate Division-Fourth Department*  
Guest Presentation . . . . . Dean Penelope Andrews  
*Albany Law School President; Dean of Albany Law School; Author of*  
*From Cape Town to Kabul: Rethinking Strategies for Pursuing*  
*Women's Human Rights*  
Benediction. . . . . Pastor Jay G. Williams, III, Esq.

**Thank you for coming to Law Day 2013**

# ONEIDA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

website: [www.oneidacountybar.org](http://www.oneidacountybar.org)

258 Genesee Street, Suite 302  
Utica, NY 13502  
Tel: 724-4901

Email: [diane@oneidacountybar.org](mailto:diane@oneidacountybar.org)



WITH SPECIAL APPRECIATION TO THE  
LAW DAY COMMITTEE

Hon. James R. Griffith, Chair  
Christine M. Barry, Esq.  
Paula J. Eannace, Esq.  
Deana Previte, Esq.  
Paul J. Hernon, Esq.  
Dawn Catera Lupi, Esq.  
Vivian Veazy

And Women in the Courts Committee  
for the Fifth Judicial District

Thank you to Diane Davis, Executive Director, OCBA

Thank you to Presto Print for providing this program!

# ONEIDA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION



May 1, 2013

12:15 P.M.

Radisson Hotel-Utica Centre  
Utica, New York

## Guest Speakers:

**Frances E. Cafarell, Esq.**  
*Clerk of the Appellate Division  
Fourth Department*

**Dean Penelope Andrews**  
*President and Dean of  
Albany Law School*

*Seventh Judicial District Committee Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Teresa Johnson, Chair**

## LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

2013 – 2014

Name of the Committee: *Seventh Judicial District Gender Fairness Committee*

Name and Title of Chair: *Teresa D. Johnson, Supervising Judge City Courts, Seventh Judicial District*

Members – *See Attached*

Dates of Meetings: *5/2/13, 9/9/13, 10/3/13, 11/18/13, 1/9/14*

Average Attendance: *7*

Do you use Video Conferencing? *No*

Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:  
*None*

Activities for Women's History Month 2013:

*We invited the Rochester Human Trafficking Coalition to meet with us and view the Human Trafficking Webcast. The Webcast was rescheduled to May 2, 2013. Our meeting and discussion with them took place at that time.*

How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.

Other Activities in the Past Year: *In response to complaints from some female Sheriff's Deputies (our Court Security in Monroe County) and from the general public about treatment of the deputies and females entering the Hall of Justice, we arranged for Sexual Harassment Awareness Programs for all supervisors involved in court security. With the cooperation of the Monroe County Sheriff, all supervisors attended a half-day program run here by The Office of Court Administration. We are hopeful that the problems complained of will not occur in the future.*

What are your plans for 2014? *We have a program on Human Trafficking planned for April 7, 2014 here in Rochester. We are inviting attorneys, law enforcement, human service agencies and others to hear about this issue. We also plan to increase the membership of our committee. We have had recent resignations due to job changes, etc. We have plans to increase the diversity (gender, geographical, connection to the courts, etc.) of our membership.*

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?

Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs

*The child care centers are very important sources of support for the public in our community. We have had some cutbacks, but not as much as most. The continued survival and enhancement of these centers is crucial.*

*It took some doing to arrange training on sexual harassment issues here in Rochester. It might be helpful to have some training videos readily accessible to managers and employees on this issue.*

What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?

Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects? If so, please list.

*Our April 7, 2014 Program is co-sponsored by The Monroe County Bar Association, Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys and Rochester Black Bar. As set forth above, we have also collaborated with the Rochester Human Trafficking Coalition.*

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

Is there anything else you would like to submit? No.

Please return this form by **February 25, 2014**, to:

Charlotte A. Watson, Executive Director, NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts,  
25 Beaver St., Rm 1129, New York, NY 10004 [cawatson@nycourts.gov](mailto:cawatson@nycourts.gov) (Preferred)

**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE MEMBER ROSTER**

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>
Monroe	<b>Hon. Teresa D. Johnson, Chair City Court Judge</b>	Room 6 Hall of Justice, 99 Exchange Blvd. Rochester, New York 14614 Phone (585) 371-3406 Fax (585) 371-3423 email office: <a href="mailto:tjohnson@courts.state.ny.us">tjohnson@courts.state.ny.us</a> email home: <a href="mailto:teresadjohnson@mac.com">teresadjohnson@mac.com</a>
Monroe	Sara S. Ashcraft, Esq. Family Court Practitioner	150 Allens Creek Rd. Rochester, New York 14618 Phone (585) 442-0540 ext.313 Fax (585) 442-6889 email <a href="mailto:Sashcraft@asylaw.com">Sashcraft@asylaw.com</a>
Wayne	Richard DeValk, Esq. Private Practitioner	6 East Main St. Sodus, NY 14551 Phone: (315) 483-6931 Email: <a href="mailto:rdevalk@lawdhp.com">rdevalk@lawdhp.com</a>
Monroe	Judy L. DiPaola Principal Office Stenographer Supreme & County Courts	545 Hall of Justice, 99 Exchange Blvd Rochester, NY 14614 Phone (585) 371-3630 Email: <a href="mailto:JDIPAOLA@courts.state.ny.us">JDIPAOLA@courts.state.ny.us</a>
Monroe	Hon. Gail A. Donofrio Supreme Court Justice	301 Hall of Justice, 99 Exchange Blvd. Rochester, NY 14614 Phone # (585) 371-3502 Fax: (585) 784-4202 Email: <a href="mailto:GDONOFRI@courts.state.ny.us">GDONOFRI@courts.state.ny.us</a>
Monroe	Deputy Teresa Madau Monroe County Sheriff's Office	Room 9 First Floor Hall of Justice 99 Exchange Blvd Rochester, New York 14614
Monroe	Hon. Renee Forgensi Minarik Court of Claims Judge	NYS Court of Claims 144 Exchange Blvd., Ste. 500 Rochester, NY 14614 Phone: (585) 987-4212 email: <a href="mailto:rminarik@courts.state.ny.us">rminarik@courts.state.ny.us</a>

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Monroe	Sharon Rivaldo Retired Deputy Sheriff	241 Shorewood Drive Webster, NY 14580 email <a href="mailto:smsenior@bluefrog.com">smsenior@bluefrog.com</a>
Monroe	Sharon Kelly Sayers, Esq. Family Court Practitioner	30 W. Broad St., Ste. 506 Rochester, New York 14614 Phone (585) 454-2320 Fax (585) 454-1612 email: <a href="mailto:sayers@frontiernet.net">sayers@frontiernet.net</a>
Ontario	Hon. Elisabeth Toole	Geneva City Court 4067 W. Lake Road, Geneva, NY 14456 Phone (315) 789-4618 Fax (315) 789-1938 Email: <a href="mailto:apetroni@rochester.rr.com">apetroni@rochester.rr.com</a>
Cayuga	Roberta Williams, Esq. Private Practitioner	11 Court St. Auburn, NY 13021 Phone (315) 253-4050 Debbie Robinson (Sec'y.) Fax (315) 253-4223 email <a href="mailto:drobinson@whmblaw.com">drobinson@whmblaw.com</a> email <a href="mailto:rwilliams@whmblaw.com">rwilliams@whmblaw.com</a>
Monroe	Kelly Wolford, Esq. Assistant District Attorney	47 S. Fitzhugh St., Suite 832 Rochester, NY 14614 Phone: (585) 753-4335 Fax: (585) 753-4576 Email: <a href="mailto:kwolford@monroecounty.gov">kwolford@monroecounty.gov</a>
Seneca	Elizabeth Young Chief Clerk	Seneca Supreme & County Courts 48 W. Williams St. Waterloo, NY 13165 Phone (315) 539-7021 Fax (315) 539-7929 email <a href="mailto:EYOUNG@courts.state.ny.us">EYOUNG@courts.state.ny.us</a>

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*Eighth Judicial District Gender and Racial Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Jeannette Ogden, Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**2013 - 2014**

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

**Name and Title of Chair:** Judge E. Jeannette Ogden, Buffalo City Court/Acting Erie County Court Judge  
Vice Chair, Sharon Thomas, Chief Clerk, Buffalo City Court

**Members:** See attached member list

**Dates of Meetings:** 3/7/13, 4/24/13, 12/10/13, 3/20/14, additional dates TBA

**Average Attendance:** 14

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** Yes

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2014:**

We are planning to include a presentation by Ms. Mary Travers, Executive Director of the Family Justice Center of Buffalo, NY to provide us with an update of the expanded services that they are now providing through the opening of their satellite office in Orchard Park, NY. We believe that every month is domestic violence month.

We also discussed domestic violence issues with youth involved in the Buffalo City Court Adolescent Diversion Court.

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:**

Our district wide Biennial Women in the Courts Lamplighter luncheon was held on June 12, 2013 honoring women who have made a difference. We had 225 attendees honoring the following women:

Hon. Joan Bozer, Former Erie County Legislator

Dolores Gist, Bail Bond Agent

Hon. Marjorie C. Mix, Family Court Judge, Retired

Lori Pettit Rieman, Attorney at Law, Cattaraugus County District Attorney

Hon. Erin Peradotto, Justice of the Appellate Division 4<sup>th</sup> Dept.

Mary Bewth Scimia, Sr. LAN Administrator

Kate Stone (Posthumous)

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after?**

See attached.

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

We participated in a group viewing of a webcast on Human Trafficking on March 7, 2013 featuring Erie County Deputy Elizabeth Fildes and the Hon. Fernando Camacho. We discussed the new Human Trafficking Court thereafter. The program was cosponsored by the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness, the NYS Courts Office of Policy and Planning and the NYS Judicial Institute.

In October, 2013, we held a successful Cancer Awareness Program in conjunction with the Woman Lawyers of Western New York and the Women's Bar Association of Western New York. A panel presentation consisting of a court employee with breast cancer, a family member of a person with breast cancer and an oncologist that specializes in breast cancer treatment discussed the breast cancer from their respective positions. The event was very informative. Approximately 80 people attended.

### **What are your plans for 2014?**

We will be holding a recognition program in Rochester, NY to add the names of the aforementioned honorees to our plaque. The program will be held at the Dolores Denman Courthouse in May or September 2014.

We plan to partner with local branches of the NAACP to present the film on the life of the late Justice Constance Baker Motley in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil Rights Act with a question and answer period to follow.

We would like to conduct a program that addresses the Affordable Care Act in New York and it's impact on mature female caregivers and beneficiaries.

We plan to continue to participate in training new employees on domestic violence and equal treatment.

Everywoman Opportunity Center is a local not for profit organization whose mission has been to assist women to achieve personal and economic self sufficiency. It has been a great resource for women, many who are involved in the courts, through the provision of a professional clothes closet, computer training and a job search library. The organization is closing after many years of service. This will result in a void of needed services for women in WNY. Our Committee will examine other agencies in the area such "Dress for Success" to determine how this void of needed services can be addressed.

We will examine issues facing women released from prison in conjunction with the NYS Women Judges Association's women in prison project.

We will examine issues faced by Immigrant, Native American and homosexual women and the cultural challenges that they face when seeking services in the Courts in the Western New York.

### **What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?**

Adolescents caught in the school to prison pipeline and how perceptions of stakeholders in the juvenile and criminal justice system can be changed.

Unconsciencous and implicit bias and its impact on litigants with the legal system generally and the court system in particular.

Greater inclusion of minorities and women in decision making positions.

Mediation programs in criminal courts.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?**

Training in the area of cultural competence for court staff.

We see the need for child care centers for criminal courts.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?**

Programs on hearing and visually impaired litigants in order to enhance their access to the courts.  
Programs addressing appropriate interactions with women suffering from a mentally disease or disability.

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects?**

Bar Association of Erie County  
Minority Bar Association of Western New York  
Cattarugus Bar Association  
Women Lawyers of Western NY  
Women's Bar Association of WNY  
State University of New York at Buffalo Law School

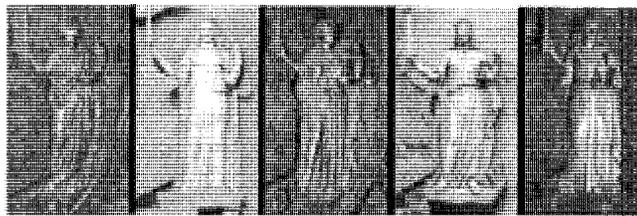
**What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts?**

Continued support of programs and access to resources and technical assistance to enable us to share our messages with larger audiences.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Gender & Racial Fairness Committee**

Hon. E. Jeannette Ogden, Chairperson	Judge Buffalo City Court Acting Erie County Court Judge
Mona Baskin, Esq.	Senior Court Attorney, Erie County Surrogate Court
Hon. Betty Calvo-Torres	Judge - Buffalo City Court
Cynthia Milhouse	Erie County Family Court
Paula DaBella	Chief Clerk - Batavia City Court
Hon. Sheila DiTullio	Judge - Erie County Court Supervision Judge of County Courts- 8 <sup>th</sup> JD
Jacqueline DiAngelo	Chief Clerk - Wyoming County
Hon. Paula Feroletto	Administrative Judge of 8 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District
Mary Louise Hayden, Esq.	Law Clerk - Supreme Court
Brenda Heath, Esq.	Orleans County Multi-Bench
Maureen Hourihan	Niagara Falls City Court
Andrew Isenberg	District Executive of 8 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District
Anna Jochum	Court Interpreter - Chautauqua County Family
Kimberly LoCurto	Family Court Admin Assistance
Danielle Maichle, Esq.	Senior Staff Attorney
Hon. Lisa Bloch Rodwin	Judge - Family Court
Veronica Rucker	Senor Court Analyst Erie Supreme/County Court
Hon. Robert Russell Jr.	Judge - Buffalo City Court
Sheila Weir Schwanekamp, Esq.	Court Attorney Referee
Lori Shurilla	Principal Office Assistance- Cattaraugus/Family Court
Sharon Thomas, Vice Chair	Chief Clerk - Buffalo City Court
Marie Villari	Principal Administrative Assistance- Personnel
Colleen Wagner	Chief Clerk -Lockport City Court
Hon. John Ward	Judge - Chautaugua County Court
Oliver Young, Esq.	Principal Court Attorney- Supreme /County Court

The Gender and Racial Fairness Committee  
of  
The Eighth Judicial District



Cordially Invites you to join us at the  
Biennial Women in the Courts Lamplighter Luncheon  
to honor this year's

Class of Honorees:

Diane Bosse, Esq.

Hon. Joan Bozer, former Erie County Legislator

Dolores Gist, Bail Bond Agent

Hon. Marjorie C. Mix, Family Court Judge, retired

Hon. Erin M. Peradotto, Justice of the Appellate Division-Fourth Dept.

Lori Pettit Rieman, Esq., Cattaraugus County District Attorney

Mary Beth Scimia, Sr. LAN Administrator

Kate Stoneman, Esq. (Posthumous)

June 12, 2013 at 12:00 p.m.

Greenhouse at the Pan American Grill in the Hotel Lafayette

(391 Washington Street, Buffalo, NY 14203)

\$30.00

Checks are payable to: "Women in the Courts"

Mail to: District Office

92 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202

Please RSVP by May 30, 2013

or call the District Office at 845-2505



# **October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

**Please join  
the Eighth Judicial District Gender & Racial Fairness Committee  
Women Lawyers of Western New York &  
WBASNY WNY**

## **Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon**

featuring a panel of colleagues from our legal community whose lives  
have been affected by breast cancer.

**October 30<sup>th</sup> - 12 noon**

**Chef's Restaurant**

**\$18 (choice of small stuffed shells or chicken parm and pasta)**

**Checks payable to: WBASNY-WNY**

**RSVP by 10/28:**

**[smack@allstate.com](mailto:smack@allstate.com)**



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

**Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Chair**

**Hon. Allen Hochberg, Vice-Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS  
2013-2014**

**Name of the Committee:**

Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts

**Name and Title of Chair:**

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

Vice Chair: Hon. Allen Hochberg, Support Magistrate, Westchester County Family Court

**Members:**

List attached

**Dates of Meetings:**

January 15, 2013, May 2, 2013, September 10, 2013, November 20, 2013, February 4, 2014

**Average Attendance:** 20

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** Yes

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:**

The committee presented two programs. A CLE seminar, "An Introduction to Child Support," was co-sponsored with Pace University Law School, Pace Women's Justice Center, and the Westchester Women's Bar Association. The second program, "They're Not Crazy and Neither Are We, Psychological Recommendations for Representing Victims of Domestic Violence" was co-sponsored with the Westchester Women's Bar Association.

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:**

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

Despite the enactment of gender equality laws and the entry of more women into the workplace over the past 20 years, statistics seem to show that men still dominate the leadership positions in many fields. Why do you think this continues and what steps should be taken to correct this disparity?

Local bar associations contributed to the monetary prizes which were awarded at a breakfast reception held in the courthouse on April 26, 2013. The Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman and Hon. Alan

Scheinkman, Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, participated in a ceremony honoring the winners of the contest. Judges, attorneys, public officials, bar association officers, school personnel and family members of the contest winners were in attendance.

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.**

We distributed flyers in paper and electronic form. We also published announcements in the bar association newsletters. Some of our activities were reported in the newsletters.

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

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

Ann E. Ellsworth, Executive Director of the Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center

Anne M. Janiak, Executive Director of the Women's Enterprise Development Center

Gwan Mancuso, LCSW, Referral Development Coordinator at New York Presbyterian Hospital

Kim Berg, Esq., Partner, Gould & Berg, LLP

On May 2, 2013, we organized a panel on Human Trafficking that was co-sponsored with the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, the Office of Policy and Planning and the New York State Courts. The speakers were Hon. Fernando Camacho, Judge of the Court of Claims, Acting Supreme Court Justice and Eire County Deputy Elizabeth Fildes, Program Director, Western District of New York, Human Trafficking Task Force and Alliance. The event was held at the New York State Judicial Institute where members of our committee attended. The presentation was broadcast to courthouses throughout the state and available for viewing by the other local Gender Fairness Committees.

**Plans for 2014:**

The committee will continue sponsoring its annual essay contest with the anticipated support of the local bar associations.

In addition to our regularly scheduled meetings with guest speakers, we also intend to present CLE programs and other educational programs in partnership with various associations.

We also hope to establish the Pro Bono Matrimonial Project in Westchester County.

**What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?**

The proposal to increase the number of Family Court judges.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e.g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?**

The need for increased pro bono representation in matrimonial disputes.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?**

Updates on matrimonial and child support issues. Online viewing is a very effective tool for these sessions.

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects? If so, please list.**

Westchester Women's Bar Association  
Westchester Women's Bar Foundation  
Pace Women's Justice Center  
Pace University School of Law  
Westchester County Bar Association  
Westchester County Bar Foundation  
Westchester Black Bar Association  
White Plains Bar Association  
Columbian Lawyers Association  
New Rochelle Bar Association  
Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association  
Justice Brandeis Westchester Law Society  
Yonkers Lawyers Association  
Port Chester/Rye Bar Association  
Women's Bar Association of Orange and Sullivan Counties

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

Program ideas

**Is there anything else you would like to submit?**



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

are pleased to host a CLE Program:

**An Introduction to Child Support**

**MODERATORS:**

Joan Blackburn, Esq. and Natanya Briendel, Esq., Pace Women's Justice Center

**FACULTY:**

The Honorable Allen Hochberg -- Family Court Support Magistrate Yonkers Family Court

Tracey Alter, Esq. -- Director The Pace Women's Justice Center Family Court Legal Program

Virginia Foulkrod, Esq. -- Legal Services of the Hudson Valley

John Volperian, Esq. -- Office of the Westchester County Attorney

**DATE:** Tuesday, October 29, 2013

**PLACE:** Pace University School of Law; Moot Court Room

**TIME:** 6:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.  
Coffee and cookies will be provided

**FEE:** Fee waived for participants of the Pace Women's Justice Center Moderate Means Panel. Approval of CLE credit is in accordance with the requirements of the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 2.5 Practice credits. Pace Law School is an accredited provider of CLE credits in New York. Pace Law School Alumni \$100.00; Lawyers \$125.00

**REGISTRATION:** [www.law.pace.edu/cle](http://www.law.pace.edu/cle)

*The opinions expressed by any program presenter are the presenter's own, and do not reflect the official position of the sponsoring organizations.*



The Westchester Women's Bar Association and the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts are pleased to present:

***"They're Not Crazy and Neither are We -- Psychological Recommendations for Representing Victims of Domestic Violence"***

**How to navigate an interview of a victim suffering from PTSD or Rape Trauma and manage the stress**

**Date:** October 24, 2013

**Time:** 6pm to 8pm

**Location:** Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
445 Hamilton Avenue,  
White Plains, NY 10601

**Cost:** There is no charge for this program

**Speakers:**

**Gay French-Ottaviani, LCSW-R:** Ms. French-Ottaviani is a Clinical Social Worker and Certified Group Practitioner with a specialty in survivors of Intimate Partner Abuse. She is the "Senior Counselor" at Hope's Door.

**Fong Liu, B.M.:** Dr. Liu is an Attending Psychiatrist at New York Presbyterian Hospital and an Assistant Professor at Cornell University. Dr. Liu has worked in the Psychosis Disorder Program for many years. She also specializes in the treatment of PTSD, Anxiety and Depression disorders.

Please RSVP to Natanya L. Briendel, Esq. at [NBriendel@law.pace.edu](mailto:NBriendel@law.pace.edu)

For further details please visit: [www.wwbany.org](http://www.wwbany.org)



**Thursday, May 2, 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Human Trafficking** (co-sponsored with the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts, the Office of Policy & Planning, New York State Courts and the Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Ninth Judicial District)

[View Video](#)

#### **Faculty**

Hon. Fernando Camacho is a Judge of the Court of Claims and an Acting Supreme Court Justice, currently presiding in Suffolk County Supreme Court. He previously served, among other positions, as the Administrative Judge for Criminal Matters in Queens County, the Presiding Justice of the Queens County Supreme Court Integrated Domestic Violence Part and the Deputy Supervising Judge of the Queens County Criminal Court where he presided over a specialized court dealing with teenagers charged with prostitution-related offenses.

Deputy Elizabeth Fildes has been a Deputy Sheriff for 30 years. She currently serves in the Erie County Sheriff's Office where she directs the Office's Human Trafficking Task Force. In that capacity, she trains law enforcement officers in the Western New York District, as well as assists in the interview process of potential victims. She also is a member of the NYS DCJS Criminal Justice Subcommittee of the Interagency Task Force on Human Trafficking. Deputy Fildes has been deemed an expert on the topic of human trafficking by the U.S. State Department and has trained government, law enforcement, non-government organizations and media in Guatemala, Ecuador and Africa.

#### **In-Class Material**

[Fildes' PowerPoint \(Note Format\)](#)

[Definition of Human Trafficking](#)

#### **Reference Material**

[The Lawyers Manual on Human Trafficking \(unofficial publication of the Appellate Division, First Department and the New York State Committee on Women in the Courts\)](#)

[New York Human Trafficking Law](#)

[Safe Harbour for Exploited Children Act](#)

[Hon. Toko Serita, In Our Own Backyards: The Need For a Coordinated Judicial Response to Human Trafficking](#)

[Dorchen A. Leidholdt, Esq., Understanding Human Trafficking](#)

[CAASE, "Our Great Hobby": An Analysis of Online Networks for Buyers of Sex in Illinois](#)

[U.S. Department of State, The Link Between Prostitution and Human Trafficking](#)

[U.S. Department of State, The Facts About Child Sex Tourism](#)

[U.S. Department of State, Non-Immigrant Rights Brochure](#)

[U.S. Department of Justice, Press Release Regarding Judge Ronald Tills Sentencing](#)

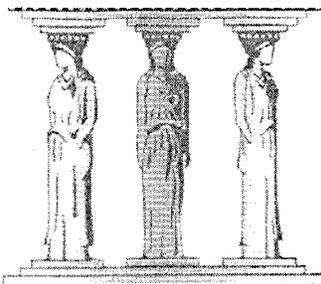
[Statement of Michele Clark to House Committee on Government Reform Sub-committee on Human Rights and Wellness, "Trafficking in Persons in the United States: Unfinished Business"](#)

[Yellow Pages Ads](#)

[Resources](#)

[Faculty Biographies](#)

**CLE Credit:** 1.5 Professional Practice



# WWBA news

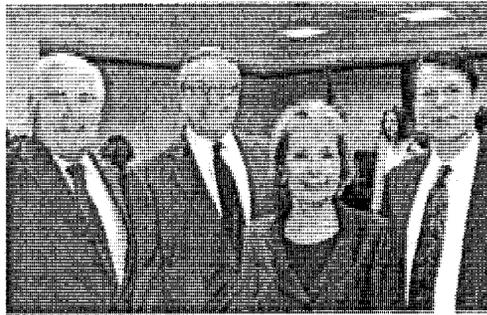
Westchester Women's Bar Association

JUNE 2013

## Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts Hosts Breakfast for Essay Contest Winners

Jacqueline Hattar

**O**n April 26, 2013, the Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts hosted a breakfast ceremony to honor this year's Gender Fairness essay contest winners. The ceremony was held at the New York State Court of Claims in White Plains. The Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, who chairs the Committee, welcomed the students, parents, and invited guests, which included numerous bar leaders and distinguished members of the judiciary. The contest, held to celebrate Women's History Month, was open to students who attend accredited high schools within the Ninth Judicial District, which includes Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess and Orange counties. The topic on which the students were asked to write was, "Despite the enactment of gender equality laws and the entry of more women into the workplace over the past 20 years, statistics seem to show that men still dominate the leadership positions in many fields. Why do you think this continues and what steps should be taken to correct this disparity?"



Hon. Alan D. Scheinkman, Hon. John W. Sweeny, Jr., Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Hon. Mark C. Dillon

continued on page 8

from page 1

This year's first place winners were Gayathri Jaikumar of Roy C. Ketcham Senior High School (Dutchess County) in the freshman/sophomore category and Cary Chapman of Pleasantville High School in the junior/senior category. The second place winners were Elena Phethean of Pleasantville High School in the freshman/sophomore category and Ariana Ray of Hastings High School in the junior/senior category. Cash prizes were allowed to be awarded to the students because of the generous contributions from the following bar associations: Westchester Women's Bar Association, Westchester Women's Bar Association Foundation, Westchester County Bar Association, Westchester County Bar Foundation, Westchester Black Bar Association, White Plains Bar Association, Justice Brandeis Westchester Law Society, Women's Bar Association of Orange and Sullivan Counties, New Rochelle Bar Association, Yonkers Lawyers Association, Columbian Lawyers Association,



Elena Phethean, Cary Chapman, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Ariana Ray, Gayathri Jaikumar

Port Chester/Rye Bar Association, and the Mid-Hudson Women's Bar Association. The ceremony was attended by the students' families, bar leaders, and numerous judges from the Ninth Judicial District, including the current Administrative Judge Alan D. Scheinkman, the Hon. Mark C. Dillon, the Hon. Daniel D. Angiolillo, the Hon. John W. Sweeny, Jr., the Hon. John Colangelo, the Hon. Charles D. Wood, the Hon. Tho-

mas Scuccimarra, and the Hon Lester Adler. The Committee is an off-shoot of the New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts and is committed to ensuring that both men and women are treated fairly in the Courts in the district. We congratulate these outstanding students and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

# OFF THE RECORD



NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE COURT OF CLAIMS

P.O. BOX 7344, ALBANY, NY 12224

[www.nyscourtofclaims.state.ny.us](http://www.nyscourtofclaims.state.ny.us)

May 2013 - Vol. 21, No. 2



## Gender Fairness Committee Celebrates Women's History Month

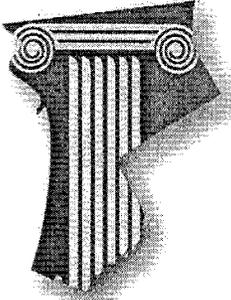
The Ninth Judicial District Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts held a breakfast on April 26, 2013 to recognize the winners of its Annual Essay Contest in celebration of Women's History Month. Honorable **Terry Jane Ruderman** presented the awards.

Students were asked to write on the topic, "Despite the enactment of gender equality laws and the entry of more women into the workplace over the past 20 years, statistics seem to show that men still dominate the leadership positions in many fields. Why do you think this continues and what steps should be taken to correct this disparity?" In the freshman/sophomore category, Gayathri Jaikumar, from Roy C. Ketcham Senior High School, won First Prize and Elena Phethean, from Pleasantville High School, won Second Prize. In the junior/senior category, Cary Chapman, also from Pleasantville High School, won First Prize and Ariana Ray, from Hastings High School, won Second Prize.

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



L-R: Elena Phethean, Cary Chapman, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Ariana Ray, Gayathri Jaikumar



# WESTCHESTER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

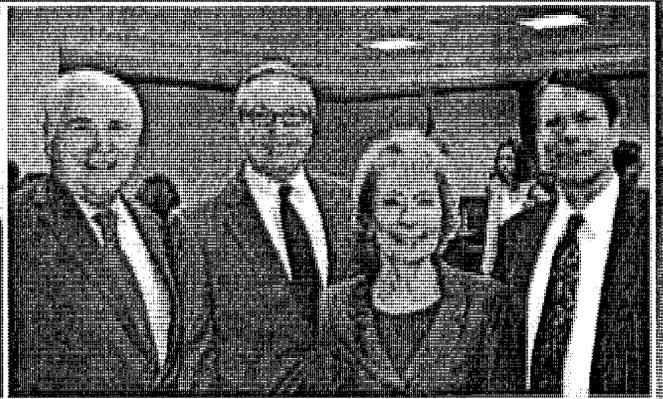
www.wcbany.org

JULY 2013

## GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE CELEBRATES WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



From left: Elena Phethean, Cary Chapman, Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Ariana Ray, Gayathri Jaikumar



From left: Hon. Alan D. Scheinkman, Hon. John W. Sweeny, Jr., Hon. Terry Jane Ruderman, Hon. Mark Dillon

THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT'S Committee to Promote Gender Fairness in the Courts recognized the winners of its Annual Essay Contest at a breakfast held on April 26, 2013 in celebration of Women's History Month.

Court of Claims Judge Terry Jane Ruderman, Chair of the Committee, presented the awards. The generosity of various professional organizations and bar associations, including the Westchester County Bar Association and the Westchester County Bar Foundation, enabled the committee to award cash prizes to the students.

Gayathri Jaikumar, from Roy C. Ketcham Senior High School, won First Prize in the freshman/sophomore category. Elena Phethean from Pleasantville High School won Second Prize. Cary Chapman, also from Pleasantville High School, won First Prize in the junior/senior category. Ariana Ray from Hastings High School won Second Prize. The students read their essays to the more than 60 assembled guests.

Those in attendance included the Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District Alan D. Scheinkman, Justices of the Appellate Division, Second Department, Daniel Angiolillo and Mark Dillon, Justice of the Appellate Division, First Department, John W. Sweeny, Jr., Court

of Claims Judge Thomas Scuccimarra, State Supreme Court Justices Lester Adler and Charles Wood, and Acting Supreme Court Justice John Colangelo.

Also in attendance were representatives of the professional organizations and bar associations including, from the Westchester County Bar Association, Immediate Past President Jerold Ruderman and from the Westchester County Bar Foundation, President James Staudt.

The committee anticipates that this contest and awards breakfast will be held again next year and is hoping for even greater participation in the district.

*Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee*

**Marian Tinari, Co-Chair**

**Cynthia Vargas, Co-Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**2013 - 2014**

**Name of the Committee:**

Suffolk County District Administrative Judge's Women in the Courts Committee  
Name and Title of Chair: Marian Tinari and Cynthia Vargas

**Members and their affiliations:**

Andrea Ramos-Topper - EAC  
Wendy Meyer - EAC  
Kim Smith - Private attorney, former president, Women's Bar Association  
Caroline Levy - Private attorney, former president, Women's Bar Association  
Tara Scully - Private attorney, President Women's Bar Association  
Cynthia Vargas - Committee Co-Chair, past president Hispanic Bar Association, private attorney  
Laurette Mulry - Legal Aid Society  
Deborah Kooperstein - Southampton Town Justice  
Anita Prudenti - Law Clerk  
Beverly Saldivias - Court Clerk, Matrimonial  
Brette A. Haefeli - Law Clerk  
Catherine Cicchelli - Secretary to Judge  
Cheryl Zimmer - Chief Court Attorney  
Chris Kelley - District Court Judge and former Committee Co-Chair  
Colleen Fondulis - Court Attorney Referee  
Eileen Mallon - Major - Security  
Gaetan Lozito - District Court Judge  
Isabel Buse - Support Magistrate  
Janine Barbera-Dalli - District Court Judge  
Joan Genchi - Court Attorney  
Karen Kerr - District Court Judge  
Karen Morro - Security - Lieutenant  
Katherine Logiudice - Secretary to Judge  
Kathleen Meyer - Secretary to Supervising Judge, District Court  
Leslie D. McLoughlin - Social Work, DV part  
Linda Kevins - Law Clerk  
Margaret Trainor - Court Resource Coordinator  
Marian Tinari - Committee Co-Chair and Court Attorney Referee  
Martha Rogers - Law Clerk  
Patricia Filiberto - Acting County Court Judge  
Sue Fox - Court Clerk  
Theresa Whelan - Family Court Judge  
Hon. Sandra Sgroi - Appellate Division Justice  
Sheryl Randazzo - Private attorney, past President, Suffolk County Bar  
Jane LaCova - Executive Director, Suffolk County Bar  
AveMaria Thompson - Assistant District Attorney  
Keri Herzog - Assistant District Attorney

Linda O'Donohoe - Deputy Commissioner, Suffolk County Department of Social Services  
Nancy Clifford - Assistant District Attorney and former Committee Co-Chair  
Patrice Dlhopsky - Director, Suffolk County Department of Probation  
Jane Vecchione - VIBS- Victim Advocacy Organization  
Carrie Vasiluth - Nassau Suffolk Law Services  
Hon. Hertha Trotto - Retired District Court Judge  
Janessa Trotto - Private Attorney

**Dates of Meetings:** 9/19/13, 10/8/13, 11/19/13, and 2/27/14

**Average Attendance:** 20-25

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** Yes

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:**

Please see attached

Please see attached information on our Domestic Violence Program for 2013

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:**

Please see attached information

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended?  
Was there any press before or after?** Please attach marketing material.

Our events are marketed through our email list for committee members as well as Suffolk Bar Association e-blasts. Our domestic violence CLE program attracted an audience of over 100 as did our Women's History Month celebration.

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

Health initiatives including breast cancer awareness with free screenings, heart health informational programs and screenings, work/life balance programs including speakers on yoga and meditation, presentations on human sexual trafficking.

**What are your plans for 2014?**

We continue to focus on issues relating to domestic violence and have conducted comprehensive programs to address it in a variety of contexts - most recently on a forum on domestic violence in military families. We also have ongoing efforts to ensure the continued viability of our Children's Center and work with the families using the center on literacy and health issues.

What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?  
We think domestic violence issues remain very important going forward and are continuing to focus on our Children's Center.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e.g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?**

Although these issues are always a concern - significant efforts both by members of our committee and others within the courts and organizations which collaborate with the court system have resulted in success particularly with the continued viability of our Children's Center.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00-2:00 in the courthouse?**

Work/Life balance topics are of particular interest especially because many members of our committee find it challenging to ensure that career and family concerns are addressed. A program addressing an aspect of that issue would be very well received. Video conferencing would be a useful tool for this purpose.

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs and projects? If so, please list.**

Suffolk County Bar Association, Women's Bar Association, Toro Law Center, Victim Advocacy Groups, Veteran's Organizations, and the Justice Department.

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

The State Committee has always been very generous with the Suffolk Committee in terms for sharing ideas and resources. Going forward we would like to continue to tap into your resources particularly in terms of speakers and programs.



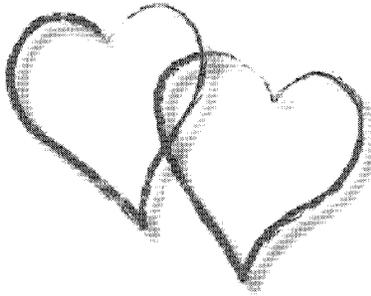
***TO ALL SUFFOLK COUNTY COURT  
EMPLOYEES***



***THE SUFFOLK COUNTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE'S  
WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE***

♥ ***PRESENTS*** ♥

***HEART HEALTH - 2014***



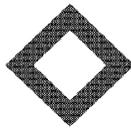
***WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 2014  
10am - 2pm***

***Central Islip-Cohalan Court Complex  
Second FLOOR - Mezzanine***

***ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL WILL BE DOING BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING AND  
SIMPLE CHOLESTEROL AND DIABETES TEST.***

***AVAILABLE TO ALL: HEART HEALTH LITERATURE AND MATERIALS***

***On February 19<sup>th</sup> Stop by & Wear Red to show you "Have a Heart"***



***TO ALL SUFFOLK COUNTY COURT  
EMPLOYEES***



***THE SUFFOLK COUNTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE'S  
WOMEN IN THE COURTS COMMITTEE***

♥ ***PRESENTS*** ♥

***HEART HEALTH - 2014***



***MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2014  
9am - 2pm***

***RIVERHEAD - ARTHUR M. CROMARTY CRIMINAL COURTS BUILDING  
FIRST FLOOR - LOBBY***

***SOUTHAMPTON HOSPITAL WILL BE DOING BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING  
AND SIMPLE CHOLESTEROL AND DIABETES TEST.***

***AVAILABLE TO ALL: HEART HEALTH LITERATURE AND MATERIALS***

***On February 3rd Stop by & Wear Red to show you "Have a Heart"***



*The Suffolk Women in the Courts Committee  
and  
The Center for Court Innovation*

*In Recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month*

*Present*

*Intimate Partner Violence and Military Families:  
Understanding the Intersections*

*A Free CLE Seminar*

*Tuesday, October 8, 2013*

*1:00 pm - 3:00 pm*

*Central Jury Room - Cohalan Court Complex*

*400 Carleton Ave.*

*Central Islip, NY 11722*

*CLE: 2 Professional Practice Credits for newly admitted and experienced  
attorneys.*

*Light Refreshments Will be Served*

**Honorable C. Randall Hinrichs**  
District Administrative Judge of Suffolk County

and

**The Suffolk County Judicial  
Committee on Women in the Courts**

present

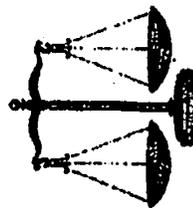
**Women's History Month Celebration**



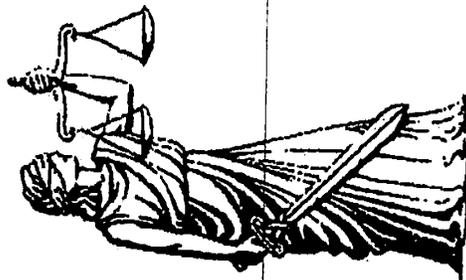
**A Celebration of Women in Science  
and the Law**

**Friday, March 22, 2013  
2:00 PM**

**John P. Cohalan Jr. Courthouse  
Central Jury Room  
Central Islip, New York**



**FRONT COVER**



**BACK COVER**

**"When women thrive, all of society benefits, and  
succeeding generations are given a better start in life."**

**Kofi Annan**

## NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PROJECT

The 2013 theme chosen by the National Women's History Project is "Women Inspiring Innovation Through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics." The Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee chose to honor this theme by incorporating it in our 2013 Women's History Month celebration entitled: "Celebrating Women in Science and the Law."

In adopting this theme, the Committee recognizes that women remain largely under represented in many science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Although women have been involved in STEM fields since the very beginning, the disparity between participation by men and women in the sciences is enormous. The United States Department of Commerce reports that women make up 48 % of the workforce in general, yet account for less than a quarter of STEM related jobs. Many theories account for this discrepancy. Some suggest the main problem is cultural as STEM jobs are traditionally depicted as work more suitable for men. The rationale for this cultural stereotype seems to relate to notions about long work hours being inconsistent with the "duties" of wife and mother. Further, the STEM fields are viewed as requiring more cerebral analysis and less emotional intelligence, again at variance with the cultural norms expected of women.

Despite the cultural hurdles women must overcome to advance in STEM fields, many have succeeded. And so, we honor Leslie M. Quinn, MD, Eileen Treacy, Ph.D, Judith Specht, RN, BSN, and Diane Shkoditch for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to the fields of science and the law.

*Hon. Chris Ann Kelley*

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH COMMITTEE**

Hon. C. Randall Hinrichs  
District Administrative Judge

Hon. Chris Ann Kelley, Committee Co-Chair

Nancy B. Clifford, Esq., Committee Co-Chair  
and Program Co-Chair

Isabel E. Buse, Esq., Program Co-Chair

Susan C. Fox

Linda Kevins, Esq.

Jane La Cova

Katherine Logiudice

Kaitlyn Pickford-Rufa

Leslie D. McLoughlin

Anita Prudenti, Esq.

Martha M. Rogers, Esq.

AveMaria Thompson, Esq.

Hon. (ret.) Hertha C. Trotto

Janessa M. Trotto, Esq.

Marian Tinari, Esq.

Cynthia S. Vargas, Esq.



2

**PROGRAM**

Prelude  
The Hamptones

Presentation of the Colors  
New York State Courts Color Guard, Suffolk County

National Anthem

Opening Remarks  
Hon. C. Randall Hinrichs, District Administrative Judge

Welcome and Introduction of Honorees  
Nancy B. Clifford, Esq., Committee Co-Chair

Recognition of Honorees

Leslie M. Quinn, M.D.  
Department of Pediatrics, Stony Brook University Hospital

Eileen Treacy, Ph.D.  
Assistant Adjunct Professor  
Herbert H. Lehman College at CUNY

Judith Specht, R.N., B.S.N.  
Certified Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner

Diane Shkoditch  
Forensic Scientist III, Serology  
Suffolk Crime Laboratory

Closing Remarks  
Hon. Chris Ann Kelley, Committee Co-Chair  
Suffolk County District Court, Acting County Court Judge

Postlude by the Hamptones  
Adjournment and Refreshments

3

**Lealie M. Quinn, M.D.**

**Pediatrician and Child Abuse Specialist**

Dr. Leslie Quinn is a pediatrician and child abuse specialist whose career has been marked by scholarship, advocacy and compassion. After graduating *magna cum laude* from Brooklyn College, CUNY, Dr. Quinn obtained her medical degree from SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn, graduating with honors in surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry and cell biology. Her subsequent pediatric residency training was at Cornell Medical Center, followed by fellowship training at NYU-Bellevue Hospital Center. At present, Dr. Quinn works at Stony Brook University Hospital, serving as primary care physician for the evaluation of child abuse cases as well as Associate Clerkship director of Pediatric Medical Student Education. She is also the Medical Director of the Child Advocacy Center, a local agency which provides support to caregivers and children in cases of alleged child sexual abuse, physical abuse and exposure to violence.

As a specialist in child abuse pediatrics, Dr. Quinn serves as a resource to children and families by accurately diagnosing abuse, consulting with community agencies on child safety, treating consequences of abuse and neglect and directing child abuse and neglect prevention programs.

4

In Suffolk County, Dr. Quinn serves as a medical consultant for Child Protective Services and the District Attorney's Office on child sexual abuse cases. She conducts monthly case review meetings with police, prosecutors and medical providers to monitor cases. During the course of her career, she has lectured and taught police, prosecutors, medical students and community organizations about medical forensic evaluation of child abuse victims.

Dr. Quinn has received many professional honors, including awards for Special Leadership in Child Abuse and Neglect presented by the Suffolk County Advisory Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect presented by the Suffolk County Advisory Committee on Child Protection and the Suffolk County Task Force on Family Violence, Achievement in the Field of Medicine from the Town of Brookhaven Office of Women's Services, Excellence in Teaching by the SUNY Stony Brook Department of Pediatrics and honors from the Suffolk County Advisory Committee on Child Protection and the Suffolk County Child Advocacy Center.

5

**Eileen Treacy, Ph.D.**

**Forensic psychologist and college professor**

Eileen Treacy, Ph.D. has been committed to the diagnosis, treatment and support of victims of sexual abuse and assault for over thirty years. A psychology professor at Herbert H. Lehman College of the City University of New York, Dr. Treacy has testified as an expert witness in the areas of rape trauma, child sexual abuse, child psychology, the assessment of child sexual abuse allegations and the cultural dynamic of disclosing sexual abuse. Among the many accomplishments listed on her forty page resume, Dr. Treacy has worked in the areas of rape crisis counseling, community-based child victim counseling, conducted NIMH research and therapy for adult victims and developed training programs for counselors, attorneys, social workers, police therapists and victim advocates.

In 1984, while serving as Executive Director of the Kingsbridge Heights Community Center in the Bronx, Dr. Treacy was named to the roster of Outstanding Young Women of America. Two years later, she implemented a county-wide comprehensive program in the Bronx to provide long term counseling services to child victims of sexual abuse and assault. This program was the first of its kind in New York City. In 1987, she was co-leader of an incest support group at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women. In 2003, Family Focus Adoption Services recognized her as Child Advocate of the Year.

A nationally recognized expert in the area of rape trauma syndrome, Dr. Treacy has been a member of the New York State Children's Justice Task Force for more than twenty years. She has authored a number of professional articles related to sexual abuse and assault. Notably, Dr. Quinn was a member of the Steering Committee that developed the *New York State Forensic Interviewing Best Practices Guidelines* in 2002. These guidelines, designed to minimize trauma and accurately collect evidence, continue to be the leading training resource for forensic interviews of children. For many years, she has also been a faculty member for the New York State Police Sexual Offense Seminar and the Child Physical Abuse Seminar.

In her consulting practice, Dr. Treacy provides training to professionals working with children, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the New York City Police Department and multiple law enforcement agencies, legal associations and medical agencies.

**Judith Specht, R.N., B.S.N., SANE  
Nurse and Forensic Sexual Assault Examiner**

Judith Specht is a nurse and certified sexual assault nurse examiner ("SANE") who works closely with the Suffolk County Police, the New York State Police and other police agencies and hospitals. The SANE program offers safety and comfort to survivors of sexual assault in a way that differs from medical care available in an emergency room. As a SANE nurse, Ms. Specht uses her special forensic training to offer compassionate medical care, collect evidence using the New York State Evidence Collection Kit and provide referrals for follow up services. She works closely with law enforcement, Child Protective Services, prosecutors and physicians. Due to the nature of her work, she is on call at odd hours to work with victims of sexual assault.

Ms. Specht has been at the forefront of the SANE program on Long Island. In 2010, she created and taught an accredited Adult/Adolescent SANE course. This was the first course of its kind approved by the NYS Department of Health to be offered in Suffolk and Nassau Counties. In 2012, she was appointed by the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) to address SANE board certification exam standards.

Ms. Specht's career has included many leadership positions, including membership on the Board of Directors of the Professional Nurses Association of Suffolk County and appointment to the IAFN Scientific Assembly. In 2002, in recognition of her professional excellence, the New York State Nurses Association recognized her as Nurse of the Year. Outside of work, she continues to be actively involved in community service, spearheading clothing drives and volunteering at a local soup kitchen. Goods gathered from the clothing drives which she has initiated provide sexual assault patients with clothing when discharged from the hospital.

Diane Shkoditch

Diane Shkoditch is a Forensic Scientist III at the Suffolk County Crime Lab. The lab serves law enforcement agencies and prosecutors in Suffolk County, providing a wide array of support to facilitate effective investigations and criminal prosecutions. In her work at the Crime Lab, Ms. Shkoditch examines evidence that can be used to help tie criminals to their crimes, victims to their assailants and exonerate innocent suspects. She analyzes incoming physical evidence and performs DNA analysis on samples. She also reviews DNA case files for technical accuracy, chain of custody documentation, and other forensic issues. Ms. Shkoditch has been qualified as an expert witness at criminal trials.

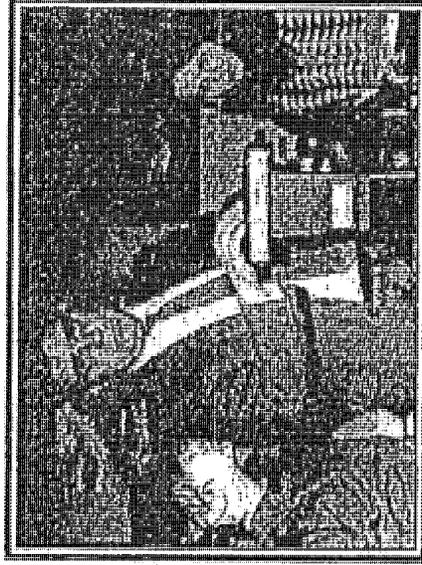
Ms. Shkoditch's expertise is in the area of forensic serology. Forensic serology is the detection, classification and study of various bodily fluids, such as blood and perspiration, and their relationship to a crime scene. She has also been qualified as an expert in the fields of Forensic DNA Analysis and Crime Scene Analysis. Ms. Shkoditch holds a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from SUNY at Stony Brook. Her additional education includes graduate studies in molecular genetics and biochemistry as well as multiple training sessions in forensic DNA technology and related fields.

A member of the Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists (NEAFS), Ms. Shkoditch began her career as a crime scene analyst. She has been the featured guest speaker at past NEAFS annual meetings on topics such as "Husband Sticks to Suicide Story" and "The Long Island Fingernail Phenomenon". She has worked at the Crime Lab for over twenty years.



### Young Scientist at Work . . .

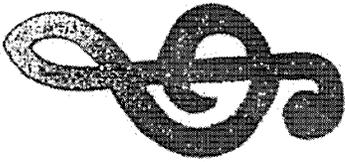
The news article below depicts Ms. Shkoditch, a fifth grader, at one of her first classes in crime scene investigation.



### Detective Story

Det. John Tracy of the Bronx Robbery Squad waits a minute to develop a fingerprint picture during a demonstration of police procedures to the fifth grade class of Mrs. Felicia Evancie at the George Fischer Middle School in Carmel. Watching the procedures are Anthony Competelli and Diane Zerillo, both members of the class.

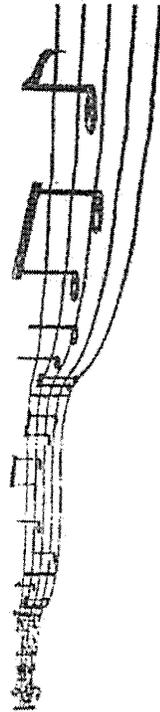
Putnam County Courier  
February 26, 1975



The Hamptones  
Joseph Basar, Music Director  
Sr. Kathryn Schlueter, CSJ, Principal

The OLH Hamptones is a group of dedicated young students in grades four through seven at Our Lady of the Hamptons Regional Catholic School, Southampton, New York. Many of the Hamptones are active members of local theatre companies and OLH Drama.

They perform as soloists and ensemble members at community events as well as in school productions. The students at today's ceremony are mostly from the fourth and fifth grades. We send a special thank you to the students, staff and chaperones who shared their musical gifts and brightened today's event.





Marie Curie  
First woman to win Nobel Prize  
Polish and French chemist

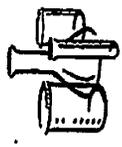
Caroline Herschel  
19th c. British astronomer  
First woman to discover a comet

Katherine Johnson  
First African American mathematician  
19th c. NASA

Ada Lovelace  
19th c. English mathematician  
Wrote world's first computer program

Helena A. Swanwick  
Her sewing machine  
1851

Dorothy Hodgkin  
British chemist  
Nobel Prize winner



Chien-Sheng Wu  
19th c. Chinese physicist  
Discovered the weak interaction

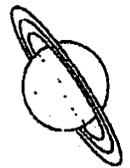
Hazel Bishop  
First female member of NY Chemists' Club  
Inventor of smear-proof lipstick



Elisabeth Thibie  
First woman to fly (hot air balloon) 1784



Emilie duChatelet  
18th c. French scientist  
Translated Isaac Newton's 'Principia' into French



Emily W. Roebling  
Chief Engineer of the Brooklyn Bridge  
19th c. American astronomer

Maria Mitchell  
19th c. American astronomer  
First woman in American Academy of Arts & Sciences  
At age 17, opened science & math school for girls



Lise Meitner  
Austrian nuclear scientist  
Nobel Prize winner 1944

Shafi Goldwasser  
Theoretical computer scientist  
Two time recipient Godet Prize

Hypatia  
1st c. Egyptian mathematician and scholar

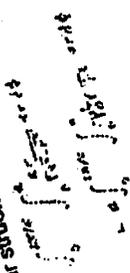


Blanchard  
Inventor of the Smithsonian  
Sephentia Knobel  
American chemist  
Inventor of Kevlar 1965

Mary Walton  
19th c. American inventor  
Inventor of noise & pollution-reducing devices

Sally Ride  
America's first female astronaut  
Astronaut and Author

Rosalind Franklin  
20th c. British biophysicist  
Helped discover structure of DNA



Barbara McClintock  
20th c. American geneticist  
Nobel Prize winner 1983

Sheryl Sandberg  
Chief Operating Officer, Facebook  
First woman on Facebook Bd of Directors



Elizabeth Blackwell  
19th c. English doctor  
First woman to graduate from medical school



Libbie Hyman  
20th c. American zoologist  
Author of 5-volume work on invertebrates



Alice Hamilton  
First female faculty member Harvard Medical School 1919

Jacqueline Barton  
20th c. DNA researcher  
One of first women in Royal Astronomical Society

Irene Curie-Joliot  
Nobel Prize in chemistry 1935

$$E=mc^2$$

Mary Anderson  
American inventor  
Invented windshield wipers 1903



Amalie Emmy Noether  
20th c. German mathematician  
Creator Noether's theorem in theoretical physics



Lillian Gilbreth  
First woman Amer. Society of Mechanical Engineers  
Engineer, psychologist and mother of 12  
Carolyn Bertozzi  
20th c. American chemist  
Designer of artificial bones & contact lenses

### INSIDE BACK COVER

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Invented windshield wipers 1903

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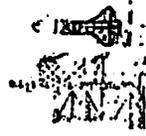
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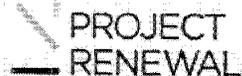
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tingale  
cial reformer  
m nursing

ologist



Early Breast Cancer Detection Can Save Your Life  
Have a Mammogram N O W!!



SCANVAN

**MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY**

**JUDGES and LAWYERS BREAST CANCER ALERT  
(JALBCA)**

Announce a

**FREE MAMMOGRAM**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2013**

**Starting at 9:00 a.m.**

Look for the mammography SCAN VAN at  
**SUFFOLK COUNTY FAMILY COURT HOUSE**  
**400 Carleton Avenue, Central Islip 11722**

**APPOINTMENT IS NECESSARY**

**Please call 1-800-564-6868**

For women 40 and older who have not had a mammogram in the past year.  
No cost to you. However, if you have insurance please bring the information with you.

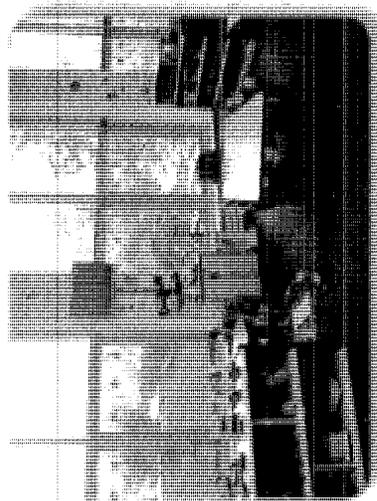
Generously Funded By

**Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert (JALBCA)**

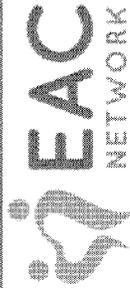
Call  
1-800  
564-6868

**Parent Feedback:**

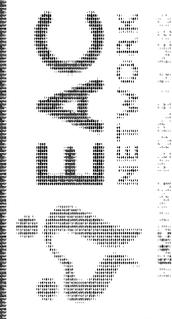
*"I appreciate this service more than you know. It has provided a way for me to have my mind at rest, knowing my child is well-cared for. The staff made the transition to the center easy." - C.B.*



Suffolk County Children's Center  
at Cobleskill Court



REACHING PEOPLE IN NEED



EAC Network is a not-for-profit human service agency with 70 programs throughout Long Island and the New York metro area and has been providing human service programs in the fields of aging, youth, families, education and criminal justice since 1969. Last year EAC Network helped over 57,400 people.

**Lance W. Elder**  
President & CEO

**Rebecca Bell**  
Executive Vice President & COO

**Andrea Ramos-Topper, LMSW**  
Regional Director

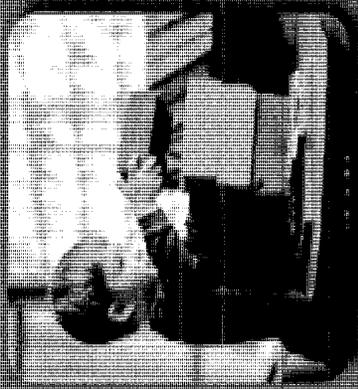
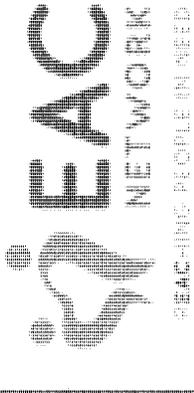
**Wendy A. Meyer**  
Head Teacher

**Administrative Office:**  
50 Clinton Street, Suite 107  
Hempstead, NY 11550  
(516) 539-0150

[www.eacinc.org](http://www.eacinc.org)



Suffolk County Children's Center  
at Cobleskill Court



A safe, secure and nurturing place  
for kids while their parents  
attend to court business.

**Suffolk County Children's Center**  
Cohalan Court Complex  
400 Carleton Avenue, Room A236  
Central Islip, NY 11722  
(631) 853-4509

[www.eacinc.org](http://www.eacinc.org)

## A safe, supervised and nurturing alternative to crowded courtrooms and waiting areas.

### What is the Suffolk County Children's Center?

EAC Network's Suffolk Children's Center at Cohalan Court offers an alternative to crowded courtrooms and waiting areas and enables parents with young children to attend to their court business.

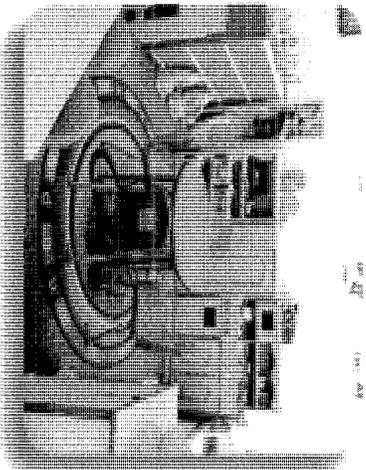
The Children's Center is a safe, secure and nurturing environment for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years of age. All are cared for by trained, professional childcare providers and volunteers.

While at the center the children are engaged in supervised free play, arts and crafts, age appropriate computer games, access to a library of children's books and also receive healthy snacks. Our staff promotes literacy by giving a new book to each child that attends the center and encourages the parents to read to their children.



### Is there a fee for services?

No.  
There is no fee to participate in the program. This program is funded by the Suffolk County Legislature and private donations.

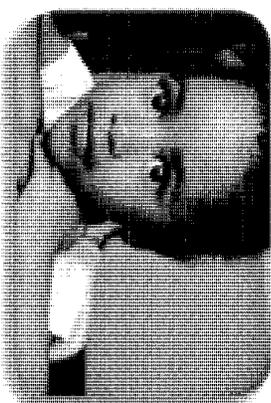


### Where is the Children's Center located?

Cohalan Court Complex  
400 Carleton Avenue, Room A236  
(second floor by the café)  
Central Islip, NY 11722

### When is the Center open?

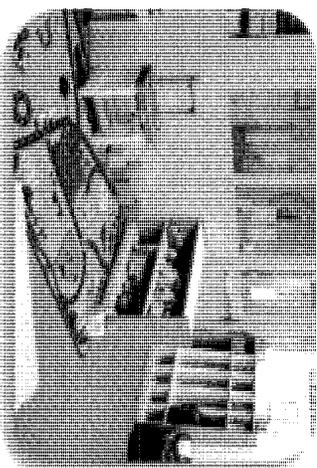
The Children's Center is **open daily from 9AM-1PM**, ensuring quality drop-in child care in a safe, supervised and creative environment. Caregivers pick their children up when they have completed their business in court. Staff will only release children to the individual that signs them in, unless court ordered. Photo identification is required for the emergency contact person.



### Are there any additional services provided?

Yes, community resources that would benefit families are identified, and staff is able to provide families with help in learning about and accessing essential services and programs such as:

- child support information
- visitation information
- counseling programs
- day care/pre-school information
- Early Intervention programs
- domestic violence information
- health insurance
- W/C information





Andrea Ramos-Topper, LMSW  
Regional Director

Wendy Meyer  
Supervisor

Lance W. Elder  
President & CEO

Rebecca Bell  
Executive Vice President & COO

## SPECIAL EVENTS OF 2013

### **BAGELS AND BOOKS BREAKFASTS:**

The Children's Center hosted 2 Bagels and Books Breakfasts this year; May 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 10<sup>th</sup>. Our staff collected books from court personnel at this time. Approximately 3-5 cases of books at each event.

### **BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE:**

This year the Back to School drive was held from July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 30<sup>th</sup>. The staff collected new school supplies to be passed out to our clients from July through the end of September. Approximately 3-4 cases of supplies were donated by court personnel and staff.

### **2013 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE:**

The Children's Center staff, employees of the court, the Women in the Court Committee and the District Court Judges Association helped 9 families with a total of 45 adults and children celebrate Thanksgiving this year. Each basket was filled to the brim with a complete meal for the holiday (and additional food) and a supermarket gift card to purchase turkeys. The families were extremely grateful.

### **2013 ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM:**

The 2013 Adopt-a-Family program helped 11 families with 32 children have a brighter Christmas this year. The families were picked by District and Supreme Court Judges, Court Personnel, members of the Advisory Board, members of the Women in the Court Committee and the Café'. All gifts were wrapped and distributed the week of Christmas to ensure they were under the tree by Christmas morning for the children.

WM/13

Program Office: 84 Wheeler Road, Central Islip, NY 11722 ♦ (631) 439-0480 ♦ Fax# (631) 512-4237  
Administrative Office: 50 Clinton St. Suite 107, Hempstead, NY 11550 ♦ (516) 539-0150 ♦ Fax# (516) 539-0160



United Way of Long Island  
Community Partner

Demographic Statistics 2013

Month	Year												
	Jan-	Feb-	Mar-	Apr-	May-	Jun-	Jul-	Aug-	Sept	Oct-	Nov-	Dec-	Total
<u>Children Registrations</u>	63	65	99	79	78	93	130	135	67	82	46	47	984
<u>Family Registrations</u>	51	48	72	60	59	65	78	76	58	61	37	41	708
<u>District Court</u>	46	43	65	56	55	62	72	69	53	57	37	39	654
<u>Supreme Court</u>	5	3	3	4	4	1	1	6	2	3	0	0	32
<u>Probation</u>	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
<u>Family Court</u>	0	0	2	0	0	1	4	0	3	1	0	2	13
<u>County Court</u>	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<u>Law Library</u>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Ages (0-2)</u>	31	27	33	40	30	33	33	37	35	46	22	19	386
<u>(3-5)</u>	26	26	39	31	37	29	29	24	22	31	20	23	337
<u>(5+)</u>	7	12	27	8	11	31	68	74	10	5	4	5	262
<u>Days In Session</u>	21	20	21	22	22	20	23	21	21	23	21	22	257
<u>Ave. Daily Attendance</u>	3.00	3.10	4.71	3.60	3.50	4.70	5.70	6.43	3.19	3.57	2.20	2.14	3.82
<u>Duplicate Family</u>	43	26	45	36	35	32	41	33	28	37	17	24	397
<u>Staff Meetings</u>	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	1	1	0	0	0	8
<u>Supervision Meetings</u>	0	0	1	0	6	9	10	12	9	7	8	1	48
<u>Staff Training</u>	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
<u># of Donations</u>	3	3	1	1	3	6	6	4	8	9	6	3	53
<u>Females</u>	24	28	54	47	39	46	71	71	33	40	20	18	491
<u>Males</u>	35	37	45	32	39	47	59	64	34	42	26	29	493
<u>Race: Black</u>	21	22	31	28	22	26	25	31	19	31	20	21	297
<u>White</u>	20	14	21	15	14	22	28	24	17	18	10	12	215
<u>Hispanic</u>	6	7	13	14	21	14	21	16	12	8	5	3	140
<u>Other</u>	4	3	9	3	2	5	4	5	10	4	2	3	54
<u>Volunteer Sessions</u>	84	64	84	84	112	112	312	232	104	192	116	100	1496

# THE FULL COURT PRESS

Suffolk County Courts / 10th Judicial District

AUGUST 2013

A PERIODIC PUBLICATION

## Women in the Courts History Month Event

### **Women Inspiring Women Through Imagination: Celebrating Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics**

On Friday, March 22, 2013, at the John P. Cohalan, Jr. Courthouse, the Suffolk County Women in the Courts Committee celebrated the achievements of women in science and the law with a program honoring Eileen Treacy, Ph.D., a forensic psychologist and college professor, Judith Specht, R.N., B.S.N., a SANE Nurse and forensic sexual assault examiner, Diane Shkoditch, a forensic scientist III, serology, and Leslie M. Quinn, M.D., a pediatrician and child abuse specialist. Each honoree addressed those in attendance with her unique story and explained how her area of expertise impacts the lives of those she treats and the relationship between her area of practice and the court system.

The program included opening remarks by Suffolk County District Administrative Judge C. Randall Hinrichs and choral renditions by the Hamptones of Our Lady of the Hamptons under the directorship of Joseph Basar. The event was coordinated by WIC co-chairs Hon. Chris Ann Kelley and Nancy Clifford, Esq. Hon. Isabel E. Buse served as event co-chair and Martha M. Rogers, Esq. created and assembled the exquisite program for the event.

The program provided a fascinating glimpse not only of scientific work but of the great lengths taken by the honorees to ensure their respective goals were accomplished. Their stories clearly resonated both with their colleagues and the young students from OLH.

PHOTOS

# The Cohalan Court Children's Center

Invites you to

**The Bagels and Books Breakfast**  
to honor the memory and commitment of

*Suffolk County Legislature*  
*Presiding Officer, William J. Lindsay*

**OCTOBER 10, 2013**

At

**9:00 AM**

**District Court Children's Center**  
Room A236  
400 Carleton Ave.  
Central Islip, N.Y.

Please join us for a bagel and coffee as we support  
Children's Literacy.

A donation of a new infant, toddler book or snacks  
would be greatly appreciated!!

Please RSVP at (631) 853-4509  
By October 7, 2013



TONY FELICIO,  
JR.  
PRESIDENT

BRAD LINDELL,  
Ph.D.  
VICE PRESIDENT  
NEGOTIATIONS

CHRIS DOLCE  
VICE PRESIDENT  
GRIEVANCES

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

CONNETQUOT  
TEACHERS'  
ASSOCIATION

711-3 Koehler Avenue  
Ronkonkoma, NY  
11779

Offices: 631-676-3061

[info@stateofconnetquot.org](mailto:info@stateofconnetquot.org)

NEW FOR  
COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS AND  
TEACHERS

RECEIVE AN

## CONNETQUOT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

TEACHERS INFORMING THE COMMUNITY • TEACHERS SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

October 14, 2013

### CONNETQUOT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION CONTINUES ITS SUPPORT OF THE COHALAN COURT COMPLEX CHILDREN'S CENTER



CTA President Tony Felicio, Jr., and CRTA President Peter Leis, join fellow children's advocates at the 2013 Bagels and Books Breakfast at the Cohalan Court Complex Children's Center in Central Islip.

Bohemia, NY --- Anthony Felicio, Jr., President of the Connetquot Teachers Association (CTA), along with Peter Leis, President of the Connetquot Retired Teachers Association (CRTA), was invited to attend the October 10th Bagels and Books Breakfast at the Children's Center at the Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip, NY. Felicio was invited to join fellow children's advocates who have been working together with the Education & Assistance Corporation (EAC). The EAC operates the Children's Center to provide a safe area for youngsters while their families are involved in court hearings.

Connetquot teachers have supplied children's books, healthy snacks, bottled water and fruit juices, tissues and paper towels to be used by the youngsters for several years. Felicio said that "It is such a pleasure to be part of, and in support of the EAC, an organization that helps so many children. As teachers, we go into the profession because we love working with and helping kids. We do that every day within the school house; to be able to have a positive effect on young children outside of the classroom is very gratifying to us."

The center is open 5 days per week, from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. under the supervision of Head Teacher Wendy Meyer. Last year the Children's Center serviced over 1,100 children, and since January of 2013 over 700 children, and 600 families, have found comfort at the center. Connetquot teachers will also be providing hats, scarves, gloves and toys to the Children's Center over the next several months.

Felicio added, "I want all Connetquot teachers to know just how genuinely appreciated their efforts are. I have been reminded by our friends at the EAC that our support is integral to the continuing success of the Children's Center at the Cohalan Court Complex. I have assured the EAC of the continuing support of the Connetquot Teachers Association."

#### State of Connetquot Postings

[Search 2011](#)  
[Search 2012](#)  
[Search 2011](#)  
[Search 2010](#)  
[Search 2009](#)  
[Search 2008](#)  
[Search 2007](#)  
[Search 2006](#)

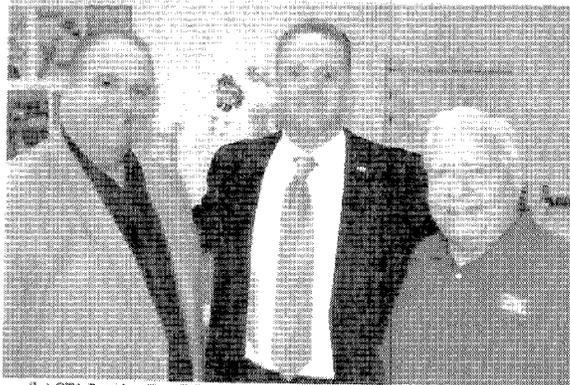
- [Connetquot Teachers Association Attends One Voice United Rally in Albany \(June 8, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teachers Association Hosts 7th Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony \(May 24, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teachers Association Supports Children's Center at the Cohalan Court Complex \(May 23, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Retired Teachers Association Branch \(May 15, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teachers Association Supports Community Youth Program \(May 7, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Alumni And FBI Special Agent Visits With Current Students \(April 25, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teacher Recognized For Life Saving Action \(April 23, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teachers Association Receives NYSUT Community Service Award \(March 14, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teacher Selected For NYSUT Life Honor Roll Award \(March 13, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teachers Support Ed Bondi From The Heart - Thank You Dinner \(March 9, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Connoction Club Receives Grant \(February 27, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Annual Professional Performance Review Accepted By NYS Education Department \(January 17, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teachers Association Hosts Community Fineman Thank You Breakfast \(January 13, 2013\)](#)
- [Connetquot Teachers Association Helps Make 7th Annual Every Child's Dream A Reality \(December 14, 2012\)](#)
- [CTA President Attends RC21 Teacher Retirement Luncheon \(December 11, 2012\)](#)

EMAIL WHEN THIS WEBSITE IS UPDATED

[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)



(l-r) Cheryl Zimmer, Supreme Court Advisory Board co-chair, Rebecca Bell, VP and COO EAC Network, C. Randall Hirsch, Suffolk County District Administrative Judge, Tony Felicio, Jr., CTA President, Peter Leis, CRTA President, Wendy Meyer, EAC Suffolk Children's Center Head Teacher/Supervisor, Andrea Ramus-Topper, Regional Director EAC Network.



(l-r) CTA President Tony Felicio, Jr., William Lindsay, III and Peter Leis, President of the Connecticut Retired Teachers Association. Lindsay is the son of former Suffolk County Presiding Officer Bill Lindsay, a long-time friend of the Children's Center, who recently passed away.

photos by Joe Maniaci

- [IB Luncheon at the High School \(December 4, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Deserve Respect and Professionalism \(December 4, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Association Addresses Community Concerns \(November 28, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Help With Thanksgiving Dinner And Continue Hurricane Recovery Support \(November 24, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Join Community Agencies To Provide Hurricane Relief \(November 17, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Association Commits \\$15,000 For Community Members Affected By Hurricane \(November 14, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Association Organizes Rallies To Educate NY Now! \(October 25, 2012\)](#)
- [Letter to the Board of Education President \(October 20, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Association Supports Colonial Court Complex Childrens Center \(October 18, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Involved With Political Action \(October 16, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers March to Make Strides Against Breast Cancer \(October 15, 2012\)](#)
- [STOP the CAP, CLOSE the GAP RALLIES! \(October 11, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Association Celebrates Careers of 13 Retirees \(June 25, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Coach Bill Santoro Inducted To National Wrestling Hall of Fame \(May 22, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Association President Joins Bagels and Books Breakfast at Colonial Complex Childrens Center \(May 21, 2012\)](#)
- [Harvard Club of L.I. Names Two From Connecticut as Distinguished Teachers \(April 21, 2012\)](#)
- [Herkonkoms Middle School Teachers Host RG-Games For Tyler \(March 16, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut Teachers Join Habitat For Humanity 'Build' In Central Islip \(February 8, 2012\)](#)
- [Arthur Pennin Teachers Develop Super Bowl Activities For Their Students \(February 3, 2012\)](#)
- [Teachers For Tyler \(January 19, 2012\)](#)
- [Connecticut High School Habits For](#)

# PHOTO RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 16, 2013



Contact: Mike Hampton  
Manager, Marketing and  
Community Relations  
Ph: 516.539.0150 ext.115  
Em: mike.hampton@eacinc.org

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COHALAN COURT SUPPORTS EAC NETWORK'S CHILDREN CENTER



*Pictured (l-r): C. Randal Hinrichs, Suffolk County District Administrative Judge;  
Rebecca Bell, Executive Vice President and COO, EAC Network;  
Bill Lindsay, Jr.*

(Central Islip, NY) EAC Network's Suffolk Children's Center held its annual "Bagels and Books Breakfast" on Thursday, October 10, 2013 at the Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip. Judge's, court employees, dignitaries and staff come to the center for a bagel and bring new books to give to the children that utilize the center. A "reading corner" was also dedicated to the late William J. Lindsay, Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature to honor the memory and commitment of his avid support of the program and the center.

EAC Network's Children's Center at Cohalan Court offers an alternative to crowded courtrooms and waiting areas, and enables parents with young children to attend to their court business. The Children's Center is a safe, secure and nurturing environment for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years of age. Children engage in supervised free play, arts and craft, have access to a library of children's books and receive healthy snacks. "The center shields the child from any trauma or stress streaming from a court case. If we made a child smile and they had fun, then we have done our job," said Wendy Meyer, Supervisor and Head Teacher for the center.

Located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Cohalan Court Complex in Central Islip, the center is open daily from 9am-1pm and has served over 1,100 children.

### **About EAC Network**

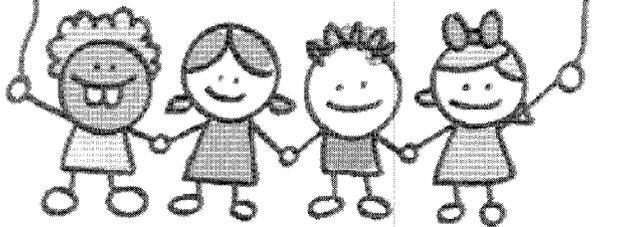
EAC Network provides a broad array of educational, vocational, counseling and criminal justice services. The organization's 70 programs protect children, create opportunities for seniors, promote healthy families and communities, empower people through employment and education, and provide alternatives for people with substance abuse and mental health needs. For more information about EAC Network, please call (516) 539-0150 or visit [www.eacinc.org](http://www.eacinc.org).

hosted by  
The Suffolk  
County  
Bar Assosiation

2nd Annual

# Cohalan Cares for Kids

benefiting  
The Cohalan  
Children's  
Center



An evening of wine, cheese, music and good cheer

## February 7, 2013

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at The Suffolk County Bar Assosiation  
560 Wheeler Road, Hauppauge, New York

### DIAMOND SPONSOR... \$1,250

10 Event Tickets

Event Sponsor Program Listing  
Banner Displayed at Event

Name Recognition on EAC's Cohalan Court Children's Center webpage  
Event Powerpoint Placement

### PLATINUM SPONSOR ... \$1,000

8 Event Tickets

Event Sponsor Program Listing  
Banner Displayed at Event  
Event Powerpoint Placement

### GOLD SPONSOR ... \$750

6 Event Tickets

Event Sponsor Program Listing  
Banner Displayed at Event  
Event Powerpoint Placement

### SILVER SPONSOR ... \$500

4 Event Tickets

Event Sponsor Program Listing  
Banner Displayed at Event  
Event Powerpoint Placement

### BRONZE SPONSOR ... \$250

2 Event Tickets

Event Sponsor program listing  
Event Powerpoint Placement

### FRIEND ... \$150

1 Event Ticket

Event Sponsor program listing  
Event Powerpoint Placement

### INDIVIDUAL TICKET... \$50

All proceeds benefit EAC's Cohalan Court Children's Center  
For additional information please contact EAC's Development Department at  
**516-539-0150 X115 or visit [www.eacinc.org](http://www.eacinc.org)**

Suffolk  
County  
Bar

Suffolk  
County  
Criminal  
Bar

Suffolk  
County  
Women's  
Bar

The S. C.  
Children's  
Law Bureau

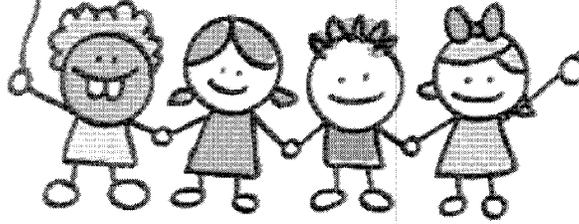
Suffolk  
County  
Matrimonial  
Bar

Long  
Island  
Hispanic  
Bar



3rd Annual

# Cohalan Cares for Kids



benefitting  
The Cohalan  
Children's  
Center

hosted by  
The Suffolk  
County  
Bar Assosiation

An evening of wine, cheese, music and good cheer

## February 6, 2014

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM at The Suffolk County Bar Assosiation  
560 Wheeler Road, Hauppauge, New York

### DIAMOND SPONSOR... \$1,250

- 10 Event Tickets
- Event Sponsor Program Listing
- Banner Displayed at Event
- Name Recognition on EAC Network's Cohalan Court Children's Center webpage
- Event Powerpoint Placement

### PLATINUM SPONSOR ... \$1,000

- 8 Event Tickets
- Event Sponsor Program Listing
- Banner Displayed at Event
- Event Powerpoint Placement

### GOLD SPONSOR ... \$750

- 6 Event Tickets
- Event Sponsor Program Listing
- Banner Displayed at Event
- Event Powerpoint Placement

### SILVER SPONSOR ... \$500

- 4 Event Tickets
- Event Sponsor Program Listing
- Banner Displayed at Event
- Event Powerpoint Placement

### BRONZE SPONSOR ... \$250

- 2 Event Tickets
- Event Sponsor program listing
- Event Powerpoint Placement

### FRIEND ... \$150

- 1 Event Ticket
- Event Sponsor program listing
- Event Powerpoint Placement

All proceeds benefit EAC Network's Cohalan Court Children's Center  
For additional information please contact EAC's Development Department at

**516-539-0150 X123 or visit [www.eacinc.org](http://www.eacinc.org)**

*Gender Fairness Committee of the Twelfth Judicial District,  
Supreme Court Committee*

**Hon. Richard Lee Price, Chair**

**Hon. Josephine Bastone, Vice-Chair**

GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
For the TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



HON. DOUGLAS E. McKEON  
Administrative Judge  
HON. ROBERT E. TORRES  
Deputy Administrative Judge

HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE  
Chair  
265 East 161<sup>st</sup> Street  
Bronx, New York 10451

HON. JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE  
Vice-Chair  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10451

MEMORANDUM

TO: HON. CHARLOTTE A. WATSON  
Executive Director  
New York State Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts

FROM: HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, Chair  
HON. JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, Vice Chair  
Gender Fairness Committee  
For the Twelfth Judicial District

SUBJECT: LOCAL COMMITTEES' REPORTS 2013 - 2014

DATE: February 25, 2014

I enclose herewith our Annual Report and all the appropriate attachments. I believe that the Courts continue to meet the challenge to eliminate gender bias and create an atmosphere that is fair to all.

I look forward to our "Chairs" meeting on March 24, 2014. We shall once again be there.

RLP:bms

cc: Hon. Douglas E. McKeon,  
Hon. Robert Torres  
Administrative Judges

Hon. Eugene Oliver, Jr.  
Deputy Administrative Judge

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hon. Sharon Aarons  
Barbara Anel  
Tania Antero  
Laura Bisignano  
Carol Brumley  
Sherry Callwood  
Lisa Carrasquillo  
Shantel Castro  
Juan Clodd  
Hon. David B. Cohen  
Bonnie Cohen-Gallet  
Maria Cortese  
Hon. Tandra Dawson  
Betty Dominici  
Darlene Dove  
Monica Dula  
Sherron Durham  
Michelle Foggie  
Earnestine Glover  
Hon. Doris M. Gonzalez  
Hon. Aurelia Greene  
Celeste Guzman  
Hon. Wilma Guzman  
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn  
Karen Hughes  
Esther Kelly  
Capt. Holly Kenn  
Suzanne Kogan  
Sheryl Konigsberg  
Hon. Sue Levy  
Elix R. Madera-Fliegelman  
Eileen Malunowicz  
Robyn Mar  
Hon. La Tia W. Martin  
Marisol Martinez-Alonso  
Susan McPartland  
Deidra Moore  
Major Ostacio Negron  
Hon. Barbara Newman  
Bernadette O'Rourke  
Tracy Pardo  
Sandra Prowley  
Charlene Pulakos  
Lorraine Ramsey  
Maria Rivero  
Hon. Gayle P. Roberts  
Anthony Robinson  
Major Jose Rodriguez  
Hon. Jeanette Rodriguez-Morick  
Terri J. Roman  
Laurie E. Rosen  
Emily Sanchez  
Bonnie Schnapper  
Jennifer Uhrowczik  
Lorraine Venturella  
Ann Wilson  
Caren Yukelson

LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS  
2013 - 2014

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

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

**Vice Chair:** Hon. Josephine M. Bastone  
Supervising Referee, Foreclosure Conference Part  
Bronx Supreme Court  
851 Grand Concourse - Room 6M12B  
Bronx, New York 10451  
Tel. # (718) 618 - 1344  
Fax # (718) 618 - 3551  
e-mail: [jbastone@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:jbastone@courts.state.ny.us)

**Members:** The Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District draws its members from every level of the court community, including bar associations, advocacy and prosecution agencies which service or appear before the courts, the Bronx Borough President's Office, the County Clerk's Office, and each of the various courts in the Bronx. The Committee was created 22 years ago in response to recommendations of the Chief Judge's Committee on Gender Bias.

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

Please note attachment of our stationary which lists all of our members.  
(See stationary annexed hereto.)

**Dates of Meetings\*:** January 29, 2013, February 19, 2013, April 9, 2013, June 26, 2013, September 19, 2013, February 4, 2014. (\*Note: We also held various subcommittee meeting during the course of the year to set up programs such as *Women's History Month* and *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month*).

**Average Attendance:** 10 - 15 attendees

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** No

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:** Our presenter at the event was Michelle Kaminsky of the nationally recognized Brooklyn DA's office' Domestic Violence Unit and author of the book "Reflections of a DV Prosecutor." (See flyer and e-mail description annexed hereto.)

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:**

In recognition of *Women's History Month*, the Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District presented its 14<sup>th</sup> annual awards program on Thursday, April 11, 2013, from 12:45 to 2:30 p.m., in the Rotunda of the Bronx County Building, at 161<sup>st</sup> Street and the Grand Concourse.

This year's *Women of Achievement* honorees were: *Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler*, Administrative Judge for Civil Matters, First Judicial District, New York State Supreme Court, and *Katherine D. LaGuardia, MD, MPH*, Chair & Co-Founder, Fiorello H. LaGuardia Foundation.

The *EVOLVE Award*, which was created to recognize outstanding female high school students who have demonstrated a unique ability to rise above daunting circumstances in their lives, was awarded to four young women this year.

In addition, we awarded certificates to five *Women of Distinction*, court system employees who have impressed the Committee by their job performance, or because they have overcome odds with supreme grace. (See flyer and program annexed hereto.)

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.**

Our events were advertised via flyers posted throughout the various Bronx Courthouses, e-mails to court personnel, press releases to various news organizations, etc.

**What are your plans for 2014?** Our plans for 2014 include: The Women's History Month Program, Domestic Violence Program, Food and Clothing Drives, Gender Fairness on Film Series, a fashion show for those women trying to get back into the workforce, probable CLE programs and dissemination of materials on *trafficking*.

**What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?** Understanding and sensitivity must continue.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?** We have a need for child care center/facility in the court buildings.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?** Our Co-chair, Hon. Josephine M. Bastone is the MCLE liason to the Judicial Institute from the Bronx County Courts. Video-simulcasts of Judicial Institute lectures are offered throughout the year, as well as the occasional live lecture sponsored by the Gender Fairness Committee or put on by some of the court personnel. Suggestions for future lectures include: Updates on the prosecution of domestic violence cases, the impact of cultural differences on the treatment of women in the United States, trafficking, foreclosure issues, etc.

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects? If so, please list.**

Yes, for example, we have co-sponsorships with the Bronx Women's Bar Association, Bronx County Bar Association, and various other local businesses and organizations such as the Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx Borough President, Bronx County Bar Association, Bronx County Clerk, The Columbia Society, Inc., Court Deli, Court Discount, Crown Donuts, D & J Variety, F.K. Exotic Gourmet Food Corp., Fun City Diner, Guardians Association, Leff Prescription Center, New York State Courts, Hispanic Court Officers Society, Loria Corporation, New York State Court Clerks Association, New York State Court Officers' Association, New York State Supreme Court Officers' Association, Olympia-Hearns Flower Shop, The Tribune Society, Inc., Yankee Tavern, and 161st Street Merchants Association.

Domestic Violence Organizations - GEMS, DAY ONE, and the Gender Fairness Committee supported the introduction of a bill on Trafficking.

*(See bill annexed hereto.)*

**What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts? Is there anything else you would like to submit?**

As we have stated in the past the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts provides ideas and program suggestions for our review and implementation. As in past years we have an urgent need for monetary contributions in order to continue putting on our programs and present additional innovative events. However, the decrease in funding of our programs by OCA is having a serious deleterious effect on these events.

Supreme Court  
Of the  
State of New York



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

**HON. DOUGLAS E. McKEON**  
Administrative Judge  
**HON. ROBERT E. TORRES**  
Deputy Administrative Judge

**HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE**  
Chair  
265 East 161<sup>st</sup> Street  
Bronx, New York 10451

**HON. JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE**  
Vice-Chair  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10451

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Hon. Sharon Aarons  
Barbara Anel  
Tania Antero  
Laura Bisignano  
Carol Brumley  
Sherry Cullwood  
Lisa Carrasquillo  
Shantel Castro  
Joan Cludil  
Hon. David B. Cohen  
Bonnie Cohen-Gallet  
Maria Cortese  
Hon. Tandra Dawson  
Betty Dominici  
Darlene Dove  
Monica Dula  
Sherron Durham  
Michelle Foggie  
Earnestine Glover  
Hon. Doris M. Gonzalez  
Hon. Aurelia Greene  
Celeste Guzman  
Hon. Wilma Guzman  
Hon. Arlene H. Hahn  
Karen Hughes  
Esther Kelly  
Capt. Holly Kenn  
Suzanne Kogan  
Sheryl Konigsberg  
Hon. Sue Levy  
Elly R. Madera-Pfiegelman  
Eileen Malunowicz  
Rohyn Mar  
Hon. La Tia W. Martin  
Marisol Martinez-Alonso  
Susan McPartland  
Deidra Moore  
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Terri J. Roman  
Laurie E. Rosen  
Emily Sanchez  
Bonnie Schnapper  
Jennifer Ubrowczik  
Lorraine Venturella  
Ann Wilson  
Caren Yukelson

## Bonita SCHNAPPER - DV Presentation 2013

---

**From:** "Rivero, Maria" <RIVEROM@bronxda.nyc.gov>  
**To:** "Bonita SCHNAPPER (BSCHNAPP@courts.state.ny.us)"  
<BSCHNAPP@courts.state....>  
**Date:** 2/20/2014 5:12 PM  
**Subject:** DV Presentation 2013

---

The Gender Fairness Committed for the Twelfth Judicial District, together with the Bronx Women's Bar Association, presented its annual "Workplace Education Day" presentation on Tuesday, October 29, 2013.

The guest presenter was Michelle Kaminsky, Esq., author of "Reflections of a Domestic Violence Prosecutor: Suggestions for Reform." Ms. Kaminsky shared her sixteen years of experience prosecuting domestic violence crimes.

Using examples of cases she prosecuted, Ms. Kaminsky illustrated how societal beliefs about women, inadequate laws, judicial biases, inflexible prosecution policies, and a lack of resources prevents meaningful change for battered women in the criminal justice system.

In her presentation, Ms. Kaminsky advocated for reforms including judicial screening committees for the selection and monitoring of domestic violence judges, legislation allowing for the admission of the history of domestic abuse at trial, and adequate funding for Family Justice Centers.



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

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851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10451

*In recognition of*

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AWARENESS MONTH**

**THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
&  
THE BRONX WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION**  
present the annual program for

**“Workplace Education Day”**

Tuesday, October 29, 2013  
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.  
Bronx County Hall of Justice  
Assembly Room 691

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- Hon. Sharon Aarons
- Barbara Anel
- Tania Antero
- Laura Bisignano
- Carol Brumley
- Sherry Callwood
- Lisa Carrasquillo
- Hon. David B. Cohen
- Joan Clodd
- Bonnie Cohen-Gallet
- Maria Cortese
- Hon. Tandra Dawson
- Betty Dominici
- Darlene Dove
- Monica Dula
- Michelle Foggie
- Earnestine Glover
- Hon. Doris M. Gonzalez
- Hon. Aurelia Greene
- Celeste Guzman
- Hon. Wilma Guzman
- Hon. Arlene H. Hahn
- Karen Hughes
- Saundra Jefferson
- Esther Kelly
- Capt. Holly Kenn
- Suzanne Kogan
- Sheryl Konigsberg
- Hon. Sue Levy
- Elix R. Madera-Fliegelman
- Eileen Malunowicz
- Robyn Mar
- Sandra Marte
- Hon. La Tia W. Martin
- Marisol Martinez-Alonso
- Susan McPartland
- Deidra Moore
- Major Ostacio Negron
- Hon. Barbara Newman
- Bernadette O'Rourke
- Tracy Pardo
- Sandra Prowley
- Charlene Pulakos
- Lorraine Ramsey
- Maria Rivero
- Hon. Gayle P. Roberts
- Anthony Robinson
- Major Jose Rodriguez
- Hon. Jeanette Rodriguez-Morick
- Terri J. Roman
- Laurie E. Rosen
- Emily Sanchez
- Bonnie Schnapper
- Hon. Alison Y. Tuitt
- Jennifer Uhrowczik
- Lorraine Venturella
- Ann Wilson
- Caren Yukelson

Opening:.....**JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ.**  
Vice Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

Welcome & Opening Remarks:.....**HON. DOUGLAS E. MCKEON**  
Administrative Judge

Introduction.....**MARIA RIVERO**  
Administrative Assistant District Attorney  
Bronx County District Attorney's Office

Presenter  
**MICHELLE KAMINSKY, ESQ.**  
*AUTHOR*  
**“REFLECTIONS OF A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROSECUTOR:  
SUGGESTIONS FOR REFORM”**

Closing Remarks.....**HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE, J.S.C.**  
Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

Program Co-Sponsors

- \*Black Bar Association of Bronx County \*Bronx Borough President \*Bronx County Bar Association
- \*Bronx County Clerk \*Bronx Civil Court \*Bronx Criminal Court \*Bronx Family Court - Gender Fairness Committee
- \*Bronx Surrogate Court \*Court Deli \*Hispanic Court Officers Society \* Left Prescription (Bronx Prescription Center South) \*New York County Lawyers' Association - Law Related Education Committee \*New York State Court Clerks Association \*New York State Court Officers Association \*New York State Supreme Court Officers Association \*The Cervantes Society \*The Columbia Society \*The Guardians Association of the New York State Courts \*The Tribune Society \*Yankee Tavern

Supreme Court  
Of the  
State of New York



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

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Administrative Judge  
**HON. ROBERT E. TORRES**  
Deputy Administrative Judge

**HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE**  
Chair  
265 East 161<sup>st</sup> Street  
Bronx, New York 10451

**HON. JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE**  
Vice-Chair  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10451

In recognition of

**NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AWARENESS MONTH**

Sponsored by

**THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
&  
The Bronx Women's Bar Association**

**"WORKPLACE EDUCATION DAY"**

**Tuesday, October 29, 2013**

**12:30 to 2:00 P.M.**

**Bronx County Hall of Justice  
265 East 161<sup>st</sup> Street  
Assembly Room 691**

**PRESENTER**

**MICHELLE KAMINSKY, ESQ.  
AUTHOR**

**"REFLECTIONS OF A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROSECUTOR:  
SUGGESTIONS FOR REFORM"**

***LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED***

If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. to:  
Josephine M. Bastone @ 718-618-1344, Maria Rivero @ 718-590-2258 -or-  
Bonnie Schnapper @ 718-618-3646

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Hon. Sharon Aarons  
Barbara Anel  
Tania Antero  
Laura Bisignano  
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Ann Wilson  
Caren Yukelson

TO: HON. RICHARD LEE PRICE  
CHAIR, GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
12<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT

FROM: JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, ESQ.  
CO-CHAIR, GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
CHAIR, WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM

DATE: FEBRUARY 26, 2014

RE: APRIL 11, 2013 PROGRAM

The Gender Fairness Committee of the 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial District sponsored its fourteenth annual Women's History Month program on Thursday, April 11, 2013. Held in the Rotunda of the Bronx County Building, the event had over 200 people in attendance.

This year's honorees were Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler, Administrative Judge for Civil Matters, First Judicial District, New York State Supreme Court, and Katherine D. LaGuardia, MD, MPH, Chair & Co-Founder, Fiorello H. LaGuardia Foundation.

In addition, the EVOLVE award was given to four promising high school girls. Five hardworking court employees were named Women of Distinction.

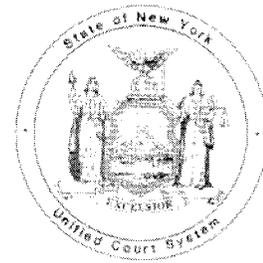
The program was moderated by Mortgage Foreclosure Conference Part Supervising Referee Josephine M. Bastone. Darlene Dove-Malave gave an invocation, which was followed by the National Anthem, sung by CO Jessica Peña. Administrative Judge Douglas E. McKeon, opened the program with welcoming remarks. Floral arrangements were presented to the honorees. Deputy Borough President (and past honoree) Aurelia Greene presented a Women's History Month proclamation, and citations to the two honorees. Justice Price gave closing remarks, thanking the members of the committee and our co-sponsors, and inviting the audience to enjoy the lunch prepared by Yankee Tavern.

The names of committee members and of our event co-sponsors are on the attached program. Program co-chair Emily Sanchez and her committee member SCO Sandra Jefferson managed to collect sufficient monies from bar associations, unions, neighbourhood stores, etc. to meet our expenses. Yankee Tavern kept our food costs down.. Further, program co-chair ADA Maria Rivero did an exceptional job in preparing the biographies distributed, and Judge Price's Confidential Bonnie Schnapper arranged for press coverage, among other things. Both members and non-members of the program committee assisted on the day of the event.

**THE BRONX COUNTY  
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**

&

**THE BRONX WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION**



HONORABLE DOUGLAS E. MCKEON  
*ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE*  
HONORABLE ROBERT E. TORRES  
*DEPUTY ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE*

HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE  
*CHAIR*  
HONORABLE JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE  
*VICE-CHAIR*

**Present**

# Women's History Month

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013

12:45 TO 2:30 P.M.

VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL, BRONX SUPREME COURT

851 Grand Concourse

## Women of Achievement

*Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler*

Administrative Judge for Civil Matters

First Judicial District

New York State Supreme Court

*Katherine D. LaGuardia, MD, MPH*

Chair & Co-Founder

Fiorello H. LaGuardia Foundation

&

“Women Of Distinction” Certificates will be presented to notable women

&

“E V O L V E” Student Awards

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. to:  
Hon. Josephine M. Bastone (718)618-1344  
Emily Sanchez (718) 618-3664 -and- Bonnie Schnapper (718) 618-3646

## Women's History Month Program Committee Members

HON. JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, CHAIR  
MARIA RIVERO, ESQ., CO-CHAIR  
MS. EMILY SANCHEZ, CO-CHAIR

*Ms. Tania Amero*  
*Ms. Laura Bisignano*  
*Ms. Carol Bramley-McManus*  
*Hon. Steven B. Clark*

*Ms. Joan Clodd*  
*Hon. Earnestine Glover*  
*Hon. Doris M. Gonzalez*  
*Hon. Wilma Guzman*  
*SCO Karen Hughes*  
*SCO Saundra Jefferson*  
*Ms. Esther Kelly*  
*Ms. Eliv R. Madera-Flegelman*  
*Robyn Mar, Esq.*  
*Hon. Tracy Pardo*  
*Charlene Pulakos, Esq.*  
*Ms. Lorraine Ramsey*  
*Hon. Gayle Roberts*  
*Ms. Bonnie Schnapper*

### PROGRAM CO-SPONSORS

ASSC Reporters Within NYC · Black Bar Association of Bronx County ·  
Borough President · Bronx County Bar Association · Bronx County Clerk ·  
The Columbia Society, Inc. · Crown Dennis · CSEA (Local 019) ·  
Derek Photographers · D & J Variety · F. K. Exotic Gourmet Food Corp. ·  
The Guardians Association of New York State Courts ·  
Left Prescription (Bronx Prescription Center South) · Loria Corporation ·  
New York County Lawyers' Association · Law Related Education Committee  
New York State Court Clerks Association · New York State Court Officers  
Association · New York State Supreme Court Officers Association ·  
Olympia-Hearns Flower Shop · The Tribune Society, Inc. · Twin Dennis ·  
Yankee Tavern

*A special thank you to TD Bank*



## THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE FOR THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

HON. DOUGLAS E. MCKEON  
Administrative Judge  
HON. ROBERT E. TORRES  
Deputy Administrative Judge

HONORABLE RICHARD LEE PRICE, CHAIR  
HONORABLE JOSEPHINE M. BASTONE, VICE-CHAIR

In Cooperation with

The Bronx Women's Bar Association  
Eileen Malunowicz, President

*proudly presents*

# Women's History Month

### Program

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013 – 12:45 TO 2:30 P.M.  
VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL, BRONX SUPREME COURT  
851 GRAND CONCOURSE  
BRONX, NEW YORK 10451

# 2013 Women's History Month

## INVOCATION

Darlene Dove-Malavé

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

CO Jessica Peña

## OPENING REMARKS

Hon. Douglas E. McKeon

☛

## MODERATOR

Josephine M. Bastone, Esq.

☛

## 2013 Women of Achievement

### *Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler*

Administrative Judge for Civil Matters  
First Judicial District  
New York State Supreme Court

### *Katherine D. LaGuardia, MD, MPH*

Chair & Co-Founder  
Fiorello H. LaGuardia Foundation

☛

## PRESENTATION

Hon. Aurelia Greene  
Deputy Borough President

☛

## Exceptional. Visionary. Optimistic, Leadership, Volunteerism, & Education

### Awards

Britney Chambers - Harry S. Truman High School  
Kathya Marte - Bronx School for Law, Gov't & Justice  
Lisa Reggio - Preston High School  
Yanette Rosario - Preston High School

☛

## "WOMEN OF DISTINCTION" CERTIFICATES

Ms. Betty Dominici  
Ms. Nerenda Guerrero  
Ms. Stella Liberti  
Lt. Theresa McDermott  
Ms. Joan Reid

☛

## CLOSING REMARKS

Hon. Richard Lee Price

☛

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Emily Sanchez (718) 618-3664

Bonnie Schnapper (718) 618-3646



In recognition of *Women's History Month*, the Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District will present its 14<sup>th</sup> annual awards program on Thursday, April 11, 2013, from 12:45 to 2:30 p.m., in the Rotunda of the Bronx County Building, at 161<sup>st</sup> Street and the Grand Concourse.

This year's *Women of Achievement* honorees are: *Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler*, Administrative Judge for Civil Matters, First Judicial District, New York State Supreme Court, and *Katherine D. LaGuardia, MD, MPH*, Chair & Co-Founder, Fiorello H. LaGuardia Foundation.

The *EVOLVE Award* was created to recognize outstanding female high school students who have demonstrated a unique ability to rise above daunting circumstances in their lives. We will be honoring four young women this year.

In addition, we will be awarding certificates to approximately five *Women of Distinction*, court system employees who have impressed the Committee by their job performance, or because they have overcome odds with supreme grace.

The Gender Fairness Committee for the Twelfth Judicial District draws its members from every level of the court community, including bar associations, advocacy and prosecution agencies which service or appear before the courts, the Bronx Borough President's Office, the County Clerk's Office, and each of the various courts in the Bronx. The Committee was created 22 years ago in response to

recommendations of the Chief Judge's Committee on Gender Bias. Chaired by the Honorable Richard Lee Price and Co-Chaired by the Honorable Josephine M. Bastone, the Bronx Committee helps implement those recommendations, and seeks to further address and correct issues of gender bias and unfair practices in the courthouse community.

Past honorees of the *Women's History Month* program have included:

Hon. Judith S. Kaye, former Chief Judge of the New York State Courts;  
Councilwoman Maria Baez; Ms. Gina Bolden-Rivera, Senior Vice-President of the Community Credit Bank and President of the New York Women's Agenda; Hon. Betty Weinberg Ellerin, Former Associate Justice, Appellate Division, First Department;  
Dr. Dolores M. Fernandez, President, Hostos Community College; Hon. Fern A. Fisher, Deputy Administrative Judge for the Courts of New York City; Hon. Anita Florio, Associate Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department; Ms. Minerva Melendez, Principal, Public School 69; Ms. Frances Barbaccia Fusco, President of Italian Big Sisters, and Assistant to the Bronx Borough President; Assemblywoman Aurelia Greene; Lenore Kramer, Esq., Past President of Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, Bronx County Bar Association, and Bronx Women's Bar Association; Marjorie A. Lesch, Esq., Past President of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York and the Bronx Women's Bar Association; Ms. Sana Q. Nasser, Principal, Truman High School; Ms. Hannah M. Nelson, Chief of Staff for the North Bronx Healthcare Network; Hon. Juanita Bing Newton, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Justice Initiatives; Hon. Ann T. Pfau, former Chief Administrative Judge; Hon. Sonia Sotomayor, then Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for

the Second Circuit and now Judge, United States Supreme Court; Ms. Elinor Tatum, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief, Amsterdam News; Hon. Catherine O'Hagan Wolfe, Clerk of the Court, Appellate Division, First Department; Dr. Nieca Goldberg, Cardiologist; Joyce Y. Hartsfield, Esq., former President, The Bronx County Bar Association; Hon. Judy Harris Kluger, Deputy Chief Administrative Judge; Ms. Elaine Brennan, Senior Vice President Operations, Montefiore Medical Center/Einstein Division; Justice Laura G. Douglas, Supervising Judge, Bronx Civil Court; Ms. Soledad O'Brien, News Anchor, CNN; Hon. Carmen Beauchamp Ciparick, Senior Associate Judge, NYS Court of Appeals; Jewel Williams, Chief, Department of Public Safety, NYS Unified Court System; Ms. Irene Cornell, Reporter, CBS Radio, the Hon. Edwina Richardson-Mendelson, Administrative Judge, NYC Family Court, Ms. Rachel Lloyd, Executive Director, GEMS: Girls Educational and Mentoring Services, the Hon. La Tia W. Martin, Supervising Judge - Matrimonial Division, Bronx County, *Dr. Hazel N. Dukes*, President, NAACP, New York State Conference and the *Hon. A. Gail Prudenti*, Chief Administrative Judge, of the New York State Courts.

The court community and the public are invited.

3/14/13

STATE OF NEW YORK

6154

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

August 30, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. SIMOTAS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to requiring certain establishments to display a poster with information regarding the national human trafficking resource center hotline

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. The social services law is amended by adding a new section  
2 483-ff to read as follows:  
3 § 483-ff. NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE CENTER HOTLINE; POSTING  
4 REQUIREMENT; PENALTY. (a) AN ESTABLISHMENT SHALL POST IN A CONSPICUOUS  
5 PLACE NEAR THE ESTABLISHMENT'S PRIMARY PUBLIC ENTRANCE OR ANOTHER AREA  
6 WHERE POSTERS AND NOTICES ARE CUSTOMARILY POSTED ON THE PREMISES OF THE  
7 ESTABLISHMENT, A POSTER NO SMALLER THAN EIGHT AND ONE-HALF INCHES BY  
8 ELEVEN INCHES IN SIZE THAT STATES THE FOLLOWING:  
9 "IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS BEING FORCED TO ENGAGE IN ANY ACTIVITY  
10 AND CANNOT LEAVE - WHETHER IT IS COMMERCIAL SEX, HOUSEWORK, FARM WORK,  
11 OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR ACTIVITY - CALL THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
12 RESOURCE CENTER HOTLINE AT 1-888-373-7688 TO ACCESS HELP AND SERVICES.  
13 VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING ARE PROTECTED UNDER UNITED STATES AND NEW  
14 YORK STATE LAW.  
15 THE HOTLINE IS:  
16 (1) AVAILABLE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK;  
17 (2) TOLL FREE;  
18 (3) OPERATED BY A NON-PROFIT, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION;  
19 (4) ANONYMOUS AND CONFIDENTIAL;  
20 (5) ACCESSIBLE IN ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY LANGUAGES; AND  
21 (6) ABLE TO PROVIDE HELP, REFERRAL TO SERVICES, TRAINING, AND GENERAL  
22 INFORMATION."  
23 (b) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM "ESTABLISHMENT" SHALL MEAN:  
24 (1) A HIGHWAY REST STOP;

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

14010582-02-1

A. 6154

2

1 (2) A BUS STATION;  
2 (3) A TRUCK STOP;  
3 (4) AN AIRPORT;  
4 (5) ADULT OR SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES; AND

5 (6) EMERGENCY ROOMS AND EMERGENCY CARE CENTERS.

6 (C) A POSTER REQUIRED UNDER SUBDIVISION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE  
7 PRINTED IN ENGLISH AND SUCH OTHER LANGUAGES AS THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN  
8 AND FAMILY SERVICES SHALL DEEM APPROPRIATE.

9 (D) THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE  
10 ON ITS PUBLIC WEBSITE AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE POSTER REQUIRED BY  
11 SUBDIVISION (A) OF THIS SECTION THAT MAY BE USED BY AN ESTABLISHMENT TO  
12 PRINT SUCH POSTER. SUCH ELECTRONIC VERSION OF SUCH POSTER SHALL BE  
13 AVAILABLE FOR PRINTING IN ENGLISH AND SUCH OTHER LANGUAGES AS SUCH  
14 OFFICE SHALL DEEM APPROPRIATE.

15 (E) ANY ESTABLISHMENT OR ANY AGENCY, EMPLOYEE, OR REPRESENTATIVE THERE-  
16 OF WHO WILFULLY AND KNOWINGLY FAILS, NEGLECTS, OR REFUSES TO PERFORM  
17 ANY ACT REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF  
18 NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR EACH SEPARATE OFFENSE. EACH DAY  
19 THE VIOLATION CONTINUES SHALL CONSTITUTE A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

20 § 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall  
21 have become a law.

*Committee on Equality in the Courts for the  
Twelfth Judicial District, Bronx County Civil Court*

**Hon. Elizabeth Taylor, Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**2013 - 2014**

**Name of the Committee:** Committee on Equality in the Courts

**Name and Title of Chair:** Judge Elizabeth A. Taylor  
Civil Court of the City of New York  
851 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10451  
Tel. # 718-618-2549  
Fax # 718-590-7292  
E-mail: [etaylor@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:etaylor@courts.state.ny.us)

**Members:** The composition of the Committee includes: Judges, Court Attorneys, Court Clerks, Court Officers, Secretaries, and Court Reporters.

**Meetings:** We are currently scheduled to meet on April 10, 2014.

**Activities:**

In the past, we have put together successful programs, including *"How to Navigate Civil Court"* and *"How to Navigate Housing Court."* Due to the overwhelming response from the community, the Committee is planning to redo the program entitled, *"How to Navigate Civil Court."* This program is designed to provide a guide to self-represented litigants. Participants will have the opportunity to hear from, and asks questions to, representatives from various departments within the court system. Representatives will explain their roles as well as the litigation process of a civil case from the initial filing stage to the disposition of the case. Representatives from various pro-bono agencies will advise participants on how to obtain legal assistance. In addition, handouts will be provided to aide in the navigation of civil court.

We are considering additional program topics that will assist self-represented litigants.

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

**Hon. Deborah Kaplan, Co-Chair**

**Gregory Testa, Co-Chair**

**Gender Fairness Committee**  
**New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Branch**

Chairpersons: Hon. Deborah Kaplan  
Gregory Testa, Esq.

**Dates of Meetings:**

Our organization meets once a month during the luncheon recess.

**Average Attendance:**

Our average attendance at our monthly meetings is about 15-20 members and our average attendance at our larger events is about 100-150 individuals.

**Do you use Video Conferencing?**

We have not utilized video conferencing during our meetings or events, as our four courthouses are within a ten block radius.

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:**

On December 5, 2013, we hosted a special presentation entitled "*Tracking Change: 30 years of accomplishments in the fight against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.*" The Gender Fairness Committee, which annually hosts a domestic violence awareness event, proudly welcomed Mary Haviland, Esq., as the keynote speaker.

Ms. Haviland is a lawyer and community activist who currently serves as the Executive Director of the NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault, an advocacy organization that advances training, research and community mobilization in order to sensitively respond to and prevent sexual assault. She has served as Deputy Director for Victim Advocacy and Commissioner of the New York State Crime Victims Board. Ms. Haviland was a founder and Co-Executive Director of CONNECT, a domestic violence organization, which focuses on early intervention and prevention as methods for ending family violence. She worked at CONNECT, and its predecessor organization, the Family Violence Project of the Urban Justice Center, from 1994-2006. There she built several model programs, including one of the first domestic violence prevention programs as well as a police precinct program, which has now been replicated in several precincts throughout New York City. She has chaired several domestic violence task forces including a citywide committee, which sets policy on related criminal issues. Ms. Haviland also served as a member of Mayor Bloomberg's Domestic Violence Advisory Board.

Ms. Haviland's presentation provided audience members with a unique perspective on how domestic violence and sexual abuse awareness, education, and reform have transformed

throughout the last thirty years. By utilizing a detailed powerpoint presentation highlighting each decade's achievements, Ms. Haviland provided insight on how laws and attitudes regarding domestic violence and abuse have changed with the passage of time. Following her lecture, Ms. Haviland answered questions from the audience and was presented with the Committee's 2013 Domestic Violence Awareness Award.

### **Activities for Women's History Month 2013:**

On April 18, 2013, we celebrated Women's History Month by hosting a program which recognized two dynamic women, Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq., and Linda Arnone.

Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq., a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, was the keynote speaker and presented a riveting discussion detailing her groundbreaking pro bono work on behalf of Edith Windsor, including her recent appearance arguing in front of the United States Supreme Court in the matter of *United States v. Windsor*, one of the most important civil rights cases of our generation. Ms. Kaplan discussed the case history and answered several questions from the audience, which included judges, court staff, attorneys, non-judicial staff, law students, and community members.

Following Ms. Kaplan's remarks, the Honorable Norman Goodman, New York County Clerk, introduced the 2013 Women's History Month Service Award honoree. This year, the award was presented to Linda Arnone of the New York County Clerk's Office for her dedicated service to the court system.

### **How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after?**

The success of our programming is due, in part, to wide advertising efforts which we utilize to promote events. We post advertisements throughout our county courthouses, e-mail announcements, advertise for free in local newspapers, including in the New York Law Journal, and contact college and law school professors to ask that they pass the information on to interested students and colleagues. Our events have been featured in the Law Journal, on the court's intranet pages, and in our courthouse's newsletter. All of our programs are open to members of the public and are widely attended by judges, judicial and non judicial staff, attorneys, professors, students, and members of the community.

### **Other Activities in 2013:**

#### *Bring Your Children to Work Day*

Our committee hosted its annual "*Bring Your Children to Work Day*" by welcoming children of employees for a fun and educational day in court. The children were greeted to a breakfast, listened to presentations by various employees about their work in the courthouse, took part in a security equipment demonstration, participated in mock trials with Supreme Court

Justices in which the children assumed the role of judges, jurors, witnesses, and attorneys. They also attended an exciting magic show conducted by a court officer. The day ended with a pizza lunch and goodbye gift bags, which included age appropriate information about our courts.

### *The Holocaust Remembrance Program*

On April 9, 2013, our committee co-sponsored with the Jewish Lawyers Guild, the 2013 Holocaust Remembrance Program. This program featured presentations by the Honorable Martin Shulman, Associate Justice of the Appellate Term, First Department, and the Honorable Sherry Klein-Heitler, Administrative Judge, New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Branch. The program began with a six candle lighting ceremony by Holocaust survivors and their family members to honor those that lost their lives. Jack Ratz, a survivor of the Gottendorf Death Camp and the author of *Endless Miracles*, was this year's keynote speaker. Mr. Ratz shared with the audience his incredible story of survival. The program concluded with musical performances from a local children's choir.

The courthouse's historic rotunda also featured a multi-media exhibit entitled *Whoever Saves a Single Life . . . Rescuer of Jews during the Holocaust*. Freestanding illustrated modules addressed themes which discussed and honored individuals who risked their own lives in Nazi occupied states, in order to protect the lives of their fellow Jewish citizens.

### *Caren Aronowitz Unity in Diversity Event*

This annual celebration was named in honor of Caren Aronowitz, a beloved court employee who passed away and who was instrumental in organizing many courthouse events. The festivity featured a wide array of food celebrating different cultures from around the world, a musical performance including our own New York State Court Bagpipe and Drum Corps, and a photographic collage which celebrates the diversity within our courthouses. The event is co-sponsored by bar associations and community organizations representing the rich tapestry of diversity that is New York and our court family.

### **Plans for 2014:**

We plan to continue to present interesting and relevant programs throughout 2014 and hope to continue to build upon the success of our annual events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Women's History Month, Holocaust Remembrance, Bring Your Children To Work Day, and the Caren Aronowitz Unity in Diversity program. We also hope to sponsor a Health Fair/lecture and an employee Art Fair.

### **What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?**

Many of the issues which our committee has hosted events about in the past, remain important to us, including domestic violence, gender equality, teen violence, and anti-discrimination programs.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?**

Operational issues in our courthouse have prevented our committee from hosting activities after 5:00 p.m., such as educational activities which would have been more accessible for all members of the public to attend. All programs must take place in the limited period of the luncheon recess. It is also much more difficult with the time constraints to offer CLE credit as part of our programming.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?**

A panel discussion addressing cyber-bullying would be of interest to our members. Online viewing or videoconferencing may be a useful tool for members to interact with and ask questions of the speakers.

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects?**

Our organization has worked with other Gender Fairness Committees, bar associations, including the New York Women's Bar Association, the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association, and the Jewish Lawyers Guild, in presenting some of our past programs. We also have sent advertisements to organizations and leaders who have shared our information to their members.

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

We would like to continue to receive the assistance of the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts by advertising our programs throughout the state so that interested members may attend.

**MEMBERS OF THE  
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
NEW YORK COUNTY, SUPREME COURT, CIVIL BRANCH**

CHAIRPERSONS: Hon. Deborah Kaplan and Gregory Testa, Esq.

SECRETARY: Valerie Qualls

Simone Abrams

Doina Alamazon

Hon. Nancy Bannon

Lori Balalkaw

Hon. Arlene Bluth

Hon. Margaret Chan

Hon. Matthew Cooper

Patricia Garone

Elizabeth Gertz, Esq.

Hon. Judith Gische

Hon. Shlomo Hagler

Cecily Hernandez

Ta-Tanisha James

Joan Levenson, Esq.

Dean Leslie, Esq.

Marie Rosemy

Hon. Lori Sattler

Seng Yan Sin, Esq.

Gloria Smyth-Godinger

Hon. Milton Tingling

John Werner, Esq.

Shadai Wilkins

The Gender Fairness Committee, New York County, Civil Branch,  
Cordially Invites You To Attend.

# *The Annual Women's History Month Program*

April 18, 2013

1:00 P.M.

Norman Goodman Jury Assembly Room, Room 452

New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Term

60 Centre Street, New York, New York

*Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq.*

*Keynote Speaker*

Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq., graduated from Harvard University in 1988, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and received her Juris Doctorate from Columbia Law School in 1991. She has served as a Senior Law Clerk to Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye of the New York Court of Appeals and also clerked for the Honorable Mark L. Wolf of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Ms. Kaplan presently serves as a partner in the Litigation Department of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, and her legal work has earned her national recognition including being chosen by The National Law Journal as one of the top "40 under 40" lawyers in the United States, as a New York "Super Lawyer," and as one of the 500 leading litigators in the United States. In February of 2013, Ms. Kaplan was named by Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman to serve on the Commercial Division Advisory Council.

Along with her extensive experience representing major corporate clients in complex, high profile matters, Ms. Kaplan's pro bono work has also been nationally recognized. Most recently, Ms. Kaplan argued in front of the Supreme Court of the United States on behalf of her client Edith Windsor in a case which challenges the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act.

*Linda Arnone*

*Service Award Recipient*

The 2013 Women's History Month Service Award will be presented to Linda Arnone, a beloved employee of the Supreme Court, New York County, Civil Term.

Linda has worked with the court system for much of her career. She presently serves as a Principal Court Analyst in the New York County Clerk's Office, where she works directly with the Honorable Norman Goodman, New York County Clerk, and James Rossetti, Esq., Chief Deputy County Clerk.

Linda will be recognized by the committee for her devoted service to the court system and for her continuous support and assistance to the Justices of the Supreme Court, non-judicial personnel, and members of the public.

*This event is free and  
open to the public.*

**THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE OF NEW YORK COUNTY  
SUPREME COURT, CIVIL BRANCH  
PROUDLY PRESENTS**

# **WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2013**

**APRIL 18, 2013  
1:00 P.M.**

**SUPREME COURT, NEW YORK COUNTY  
60 CENTRE STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK  
NORMAN GOODMAN JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM**

# **WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2013**

## **WELCOME**

**Honorable Sherry Klein Heitler  
Administrative Judge For Civil Matters,  
First Judicial District**

## **OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION OF THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Honorable Deborah A. Kaplan  
Co-Chairperson of  
The Gender Fairness Committee, New York County,  
Supreme Court, Civil Branch**

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq.**

## **PRESENTATION OF THE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD TO LINDA ARNONE**

**Honorable Norman Goodman  
New York County Clerk**

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler, Hon. Norman Goodman, James Rossetti, Esq., John Werner, Esq., Committee chairpersons: Hon. Deborah A. Kaplan, Gregory Testa, Esq., Committee members: Simone Abrams, Doina Almazon, Lori Balaklaw, Hon. Arlene Bluth, Hon. Matthew Cooper, PJ Garone, Elizabeth Gertz, Hon. Judith Gische, Hon. Shlomo Hagler, Officer Cecily Hernandez, Ta-Tanisha James, Joan Levenson, Esq., Valerie Qualls, Carmen Reyes, Marie Rosemy, Rosaline Rosenfeld, Esq., Hon. Lori Sattler, Hon. Milton Tingling. Thank you for planning and advertising assistance to Luis Carrero, Ray Denton, Michelle Gonsieski, Irene Laracuenta, Naomi Ruiz, Loren Schwartz, and Claudette Wilson.

**Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq.**  
*Keynote Speaker*



Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq., graduated from Harvard University in 1988, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and received her Juris Doctorate from Columbia Law School in 1991. She has served as a Senior Law Clerk to Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye of the New York Court of Appeals and also clerked for the Honorable Mark L. Wolf of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Ms. Kaplan presently serves as a partner in the Litigation Department of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, and her legal work has earned her national recognition including being chosen by The National Law Journal as one of the top "40 under 40" lawyers in the United States, as a New York "Super Lawyer," and as one of the 500 leading litigators in the United States. In February of 2013, Ms. Kaplan was named by Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman to serve on the Commercial Division Advisory Council.

Along with her extensive experience representing major corporate clients in complex, high profile matters, Ms. Kaplan's pro bono work has also been nationally recognized. Most recently, Ms. Kaplan argued in front of the Supreme Court of the United States on behalf of her client Edith Windsor in a case which challenges the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act.

Ms. Kaplan's work has been honored by a number of organizations, including the New York City Council, the New York Civil Liberties Union, the National Organization for Women, the Columbia Law School Women's Association, and the New York County Lawyers Association.

**Linda Arnone**

*Women's History Month Distinguished Service Award Recipient*

The 2013 Women's History Month Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Linda Arnone, a beloved employee of the Supreme Court, New York County, Civil Term. Linda has worked with the court system for almost thirty years.

Linda is a lifelong resident of New York City, having been born and raised in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn (of The Honeymooners fame). She is a graduate of F.D.R High School and Kingsborough Community College, and has also taken classes at Hunter College. Prior to her court career, Linda worked in the private sector. Before entering the Unified Court System, Linda worked for Congressman Stephen Solarz in Brooklyn at his local office.

Linda began her career in the Court System on December 1, 1983, as the Administrative

Secretary to the Hon. Norman Goodman. She worked in that capacity until May 1991, when she gave birth to her son Michael Ruocco. Linda was a stay at home mother until June 1, 1995, when she returned from her maternity leave to resume her career as the Administrative Secretary to Mr. Goodman. On November 22, 2001, Linda was promoted to the position of Senior Court Analyst. Thereafter, Linda was once again promoted on April 16, 2012 to Principal Court Analyst. Effectively, she is the Executive Administrative Assistant to the New York County Clerk.

As previously mentioned, Linda is the proud mother of Michael Ruocco who is completing his junior year at NYU's Tisch School of Performing Arts in the Theater Program. Michael has appeared in numerous theatrical productions, and it is safe to say that Linda has not missed one of his performances.

Linda will be recognized for her devoted service to the court system and for her continuous support and assistance to the Justices of the Supreme Court, non-judicial personnel, and members of the public.

## A Women's History Month Celebration and a Landmark Case



From left to right: Gregory Testa, Associate Court Attorney, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County, Co-Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee; Keynote Speaker Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq., Partner, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP; Hon. Deborah A. Kaplan, Justice, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County, Co-Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee

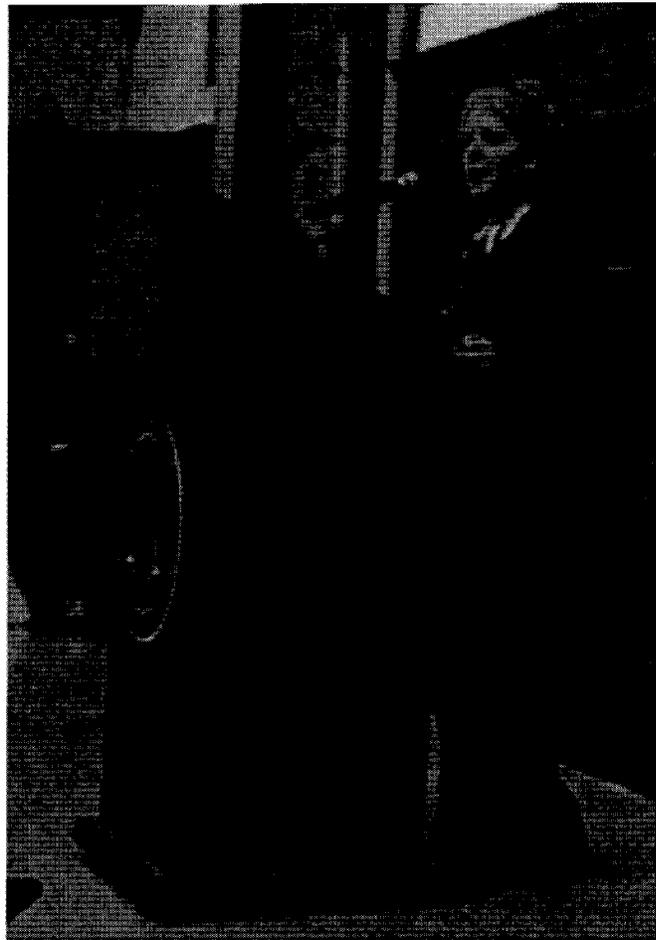
Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq. was the keynote speaker at this year's New York State Supreme Court's Women's History Month celebration, where she spoke about *United States v. Windsor*, the landmark case she argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in late March of this year. Ms. Kaplan represents Edith Windsor, a widow forced to pay \$363,000 in federal estate tax, in a case challenging the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act ("DOMA"), the statute that defines marriage (for federal purposes) as only between a man and a woman.

"It is all too easy for people of our generation to think they know what it was like for people of Edie's generation to have to live their lives knowing that if they told the truth about who they were, their lives could be ruined," said Ms. Kaplan, who served as senior law clerk to former New York Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye. Ms. Kaplan is now a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, and was chosen by *The National Law Journal* as one of the top "40 under 40" lawyers in the U.S.

## Women's History Month 2013: Two Dynamic Women

On April 18, 2013, the Gender Fairness Committee, New York County, Civil Branch, celebrated its Annual Women's History Month program. This year, the committee recognized two dynamic women, Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq., and Linda Arnone.

Roberta A. Kaplan, Esq., the keynote speaker, presented an interesting presentation on her groundbreaking pro bono work. Ms. Kaplan graduated from Harvard University in 1988, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and received her Juris Doctorate from Columbia Law School in 1991. She has served as a Senior Law Clerk to Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye of the New York Court of Appeals and also clerked for the Honorable Mark L. Wolf of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. Ms. Kaplan presently serves as a partner in the Litigation Department of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, and her legal work has earned her national recognition including being chosen by The National Law Journal as one of the top "40 under 40" lawyers in the United States, as a New York "Super Lawyer," and as one of the 500 leading litigators in the United States.



**Attorney Roberta Kaplan**

Ms. Kaplan discussed her pro bono work including her work in *United States v. Windsor*, in which the United States Supreme Court recently issued a historic opinion. In *Windsor*, the Supreme Court ruled that a key provision of the Defense of Marriage Act violated the U.S. Constitution by barring legally married same-sex couples from enjoying the wide-ranging benefits of marriage conferred under federal law. Ms. Kaplan provided an insightful viewpoint regarding her experience at the Supreme Court, and discussed the history of Edith Windsor's case. Upon the conclusion of the lecture, Ms. Kaplan answered several questions from the audience, which included judges, court staff, attorneys, law students, and community members.

Following the lecture by Ms. Kaplan, the Honorable Norman Goodman, New York County Clerk, introduced the 2013 Women's History Month Service Award honoree. This year, the award was presented to Linda Arnone of the New York County Clerk's office. Linda began her career in the Court

System on December 1, 1983, as the Administrative Secretary to Mr. Goodman. She worked in that capacity until May 1991, when she gave birth to her son. She returned from maternity leave to resume her career with the court system as the Administrative Secretary to Mr. Goodman and has been promoted to Senior Court Analyst and Principal Court Analyst. Effectively, she is the Executive Administrative Assistant to the New York County Clerk.

Mr. Goodman recounted several stories of Linda's hard work and support of her co-workers. Linda was recognized for her continuous support and assistance to the Justices of the Supreme Court, non-judicial personnel, and members of the public. Linda graciously thanked her co-workers, friends, and family for their support.

A reception concluded the program at which attendees met the honorees, enjoyed refreshments, and recounted the highlights of the program.



**Honoree Linda Arnone**

**Former Judge Emily Jane Goodman urges Judges to consider the human implications of police policies in her August article, "THE IMPORTANCE OF JUDICIAL EMPATHY," appearing in the online *The Nation*. The Judge's piece offers thoughtful counterpoints to the Mayor's contention that Judge Shira Scheindlin has shown an anti-police bias. Find it at:**

**<http://www.thenation.com/article/175608/importance-judicial-empathy#axzz2dB7uhc4J>**

The Gender Fairness Committee, New York County,  
Supreme Court, Civil Branch,  
presents

# Tracking Change:

**30 years of  
accomplishments  
in the fight against  
Domestic Violence  
and Sexual Assault**

featuring a presentation by Mary Haviland, Esq.

Thursday, December 5, 2013  
Norman Goodman Jury Assembly Room, 452  
Supreme Court, New York County, Civil Term  
60 Centre Street, New York, New York

## The 2013 Domestic Violence Awareness Program

Welcome & Opening Remarks	Hon. Deborah Kaplan, Co-Chair of the Gender Fairness Committee, Civil Branch, New York County
Introduction of Guest Speaker	Gregory Testa, Esq., Co-Chairperson of the Domestic Violence Subcommittee
Presentation	Mary Haviland, Esq., Executive Director of the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault
Closing Remarks	Hon. Matthew Cooper, Co-Chairperson of the Domestic Violence Subcommittee

Special Thanks to Hon. Norman Goodman, Hon. Sherry Klein Heitler, John Werner, Esq., Simone Abrams, Doina Almazon, Lori Balaklaw, Luis Carrero, Ray Denton, P.J. Garone, Michelle Gonsieski, Cecily Hernandez, Irene Laracuenta, Valerie Qualls, Naomi Ruiz, and Loren Schwartz.

## Mary Haviland

Mary Haviland is a lawyer and community activist who brings more than 30 years experience in violence against women, research, advocacy and philanthropy. In 2011, she became Executive Director of the NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault, an advocacy organization that advances training, research and community mobilization in order to sensitively respond to and prevent sexual assault. Before this, she served as Deputy Director for Victim Advocacy and Commissioner of the New York State Crime Victims Board.

From 2007-2009, Ms. Haviland directed the Grants and Public Policy Program at the NYC Affiliate of Susan G. Komen. She oversaw a \$2.5 million grants program and two public policy campaigns that resulted in substantive policy changes for breast cancer patients without health insurance.

From 1978 through 2006, Ms. Haviland worked in the field of domestic violence. She was a founder and Co-Executive Director of CONNECT, a domestic violence organization, which focuses on early intervention and prevention as methods for ending family violence. She worked at CONNECT, and its predecessor the Family Violence Project of the Urban Justice Center, from 1994-2006. She built several models programs including one of the first prevention programs in domestic violence and a police precinct program which has been replicated in several precincts in NYC. She has chaired several domestic violence task forces including a citywide committee, which sets policy on criminal justice and domestic violence issues and was an appointed member of Mayor Bloomberg's Domestic Violence Advisory Board.

She is author of several publications on domestic violence in such journals as *Violence Against Women* and *Journal of Family Violence*. She co-authored a study of the effects mandatory arrest entitled, *The Family Protection and Domestic Violence Intervention Act of 1995: Examining the Effect of Mandatory arrest in New York City in 2001*. She has served on several Boards of Directors including New York Asian Women's Center and Voices of Women. Ms. Haviland received her law degree from NYU Law School as a Root, Tilden, Snow Scholar in 1994 and is admitted to practice law in New York State.

Ms. Haviland began working with victims of domestic violence in 1978 at Brooklyn Legal Services. She served as Director of the Park Slope Safe Homes Project from 1980-85 and was the recipient of the Charles H. Revson Fellowship on the Future of New York at Columbia University in 1985. Ms. Haviland also founded and directed the Coalition for Criminal Justice Reform for Battered Women in 1987, a member organization that strove to improve the criminal justice system for victims of domestic violence.

In 2012, Ms. Haviland was awarded the Frank Carrington Crime Victim Attorney Award from the American Bar Association. The award is given to attorneys who have worked to promote or implement policies to improve the treatment of crime victims in the criminal justice system. In 2012, she also served as an Adjunct Professor at University of Connecticut School of Social Work teaching an interdisciplinary course in Leadership Development and Violence Against Women.

The Gender Fairness Committee, New York County,  
Supreme Court, Civil Branch, presents

# Tracking Change:

30 years of  
accomplishments  
in the fight against  
Domestic Violence  
and Sexual Assault

featuring a presentation by Mary Haviland, Esq.

Thursday, December 5, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.  
Norman Goodman Jury Assembly Room, Room 452  
Supreme Court, New York County, Civil Term  
60 Centre Street, New York, New York

The Gender Fairness Committee, New York County, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, is proud to feature a special presentation by **Mary Haviland**, a lawyer and community activist who brings more than 30 years of experience in violence against women, research, advocacy and philanthropy. In 2011, Ms. Haviland became Executive Director of the **New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault**, an advocacy organization that advances training, research and community mobilization in order to sensitively respond to and prevent sexual assault.

Ms. Haviland began working with victims of domestic violence in 1978 at Brooklyn Legal Services, and served as the Director of the Park Slope Safe Homes Project for five years. Ms. Haviland was a founder and Co-Executive Director of CONNECT, a domestic violence organization, which focuses on early intervention and prevention as methods for ending family violence. She served as Deputy Director and a Commissioner of the NYS Office on Victim Services from 2010-11. Ms. Haviland has numerous publications and chaired several domestic violence task forces including a citywide committee on criminal justice and domestic violence as well as Mayor Bloomberg's Domestic Violence Advisory Board.

For more information, please contact (646) 386-5567

Judge Deborah Kaplan, co-chairperson of the Gender Fairness Committee, Supreme Court, Civil Branch  
Judge Matthew Cooper and Gregory Testa, Esq., co-chairpersons of the Domestic Violence Sub-committee



# HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM

*Sponsored by the*  
**JEWISH LAWYERS GUILD**

*in cooperation with*

**THE GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE OF THE  
SUPREME COURT, CIVIL BRANCH, NEW YORK COUNTY**

Tuesday, April 9, 2013, 12:30-2:00 P.M.  
Supreme Court, New York County  
60 Centre Street ~ Rotunda

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

*Remarks and Readings*

**HONORABLE SHERRY KLEIN-HEITLER**  
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, SUPREME COURT, FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

**CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY BY  
HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND MEMBERS OF THE SECOND AND  
THIRD GENERATION**

*Remarks*

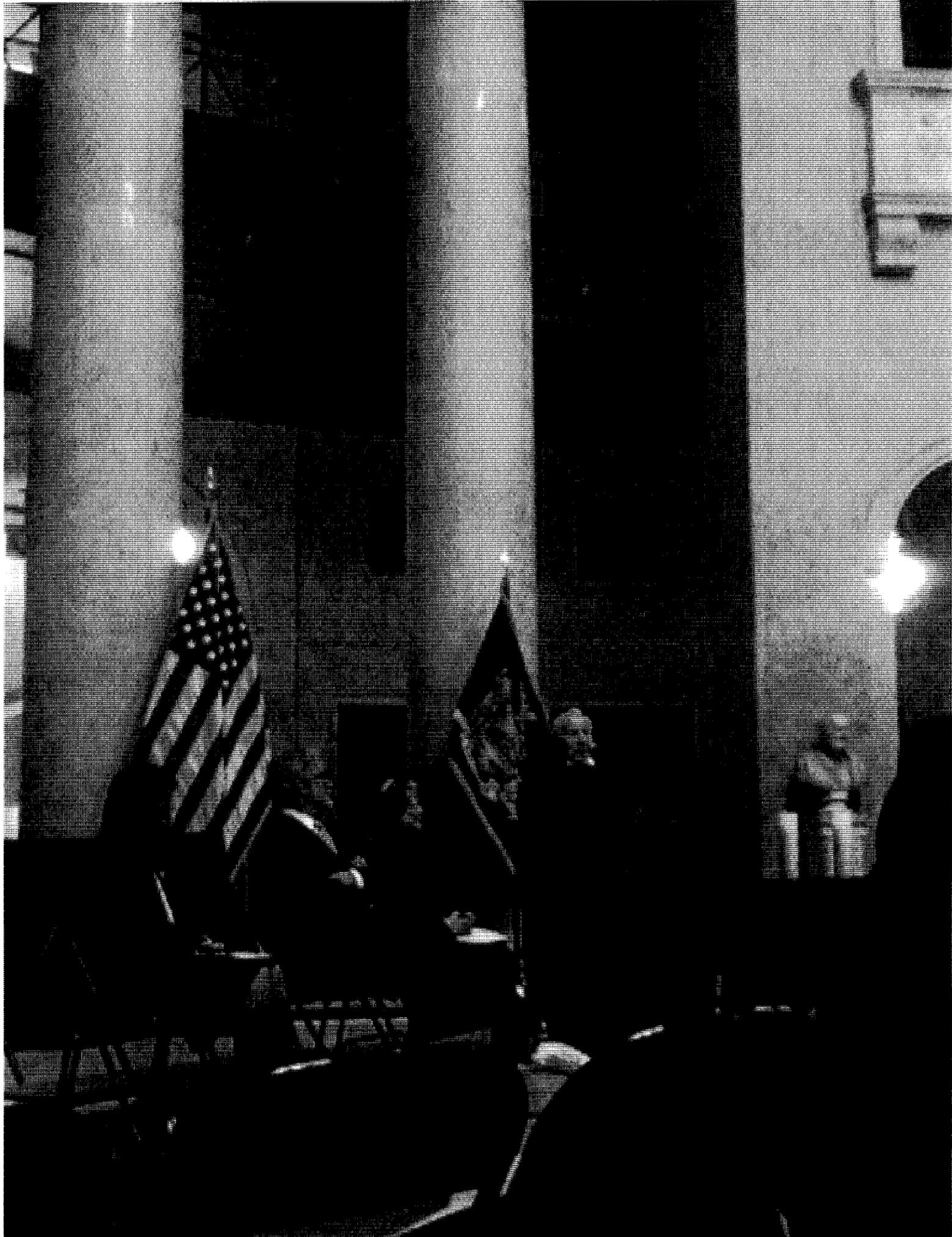
**HONORABLE MARTIN SHULMAN**  
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE APPELLATE TERM, FIRST DEPARTMENT

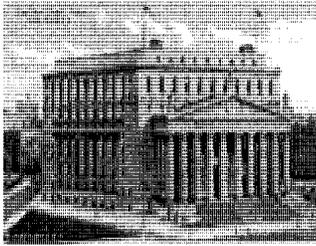
*Keynote Presentation*

**Jack Ratz, Author and  
Holocaust Survivor**

On September 17, 1998, US Senator Patrick Moynihan, addressing President Bill Clinton regarding Mr. Ratz's book, *Endless Miracles*, said "Jack Ratz's memoirs is an elegant refutation to those who would dare to trivialize, distort or even deny the Holocaust's important message."

For more information or if you would like to participate in the candle lighting, please contact Justice Shulman at (646) 386-5687 or [MShulman@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:MShulman@courts.state.ny.us) or Justice Deborah Kaplan at (646) 386-5567 or [DKaplan@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:DKaplan@courts.state.ny.us)





# Just Us



A publication from Supreme Court Civil Branch, First J.D.  
New York County and New York County Clerk's Office

Remembrance Issue No. 2, May 2013

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## Forward by Hon. Martin Shulman

On Tuesday, April 9, 2013, the Jewish Lawyers Guild in cooperation with the Gender Fairness Committee of the Civil Branch of the Supreme Court, New York County and the New York County Clerk's Office sponsored the annual Holocaust Remembrance Program. This program serves as a remembrance of the Holocaust, honors the past, and mourns the world we lost. It also inspires us to create a more just society and a safer, fairer world of peace and tolerance. "Just Us," in publishing this second special edition newsletter, shares the stories of six courageous individuals who survived the Holocaust. These stories were read, powerfully and eloquently, by Administrative Judge Sherry Klein-Heitler that afternoon during the poignant candle lighting ceremony that is part of our Program each year. This special edition newsletter also reprints the remarks of our Keynote Speaker, Jack Ratz, a survivor of the Gottendorf Death Camp and the author of *Endless Miracles*, his personal story of survival.

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the German-born Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI, speaking from St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, warned that humanity must always be on guard against a repeat of murderous racism: "The memory of this immense tragedy, which above all struck so harshly the Jewish people, must represent for everyone a constant warning so that the horrors of the past are not repeated, so that every form of hatred and racism is overcome, and that respect for, and dignity of, every human person is encouraged."

Echoing the concluding words of Mr. Ratz, we hope this special edition newsletter inspires you and helps remind all of us of our responsibility to protect the civil and human rights of all people in our society and across the world.



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# *Candle Lighters*

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## **Sala (Sheindel) Bierman Elbaum**

Sala (Sheindel) Bierman Elbaum, of blessed memory, was born in 1926 in Olkusz, Poland, and lived with her parents, three brothers and one sister in a small apartment with one big kitchen and one bedroom. Her paternal grandparents lived downstairs in a separate, one room apartment.

The Nazis occupied Olkusz in September 1939. In 1940, they segregated the Jews into a ghetto and life was very hard with rationing and nightly curfews. The Jews were forced to wear Yellow Stars and to do slave labor.

In the winter of 1941, in the middle of the night, the Nazis deported Sala – then only 15 years old - and her sister, Chanka, -also of blessed memory - to a labor camp. Sala would never again see her grandparents, parents, two of her brothers as well as her aunts and uncles and many other family members. It is believed that they were all murdered at Auschwitz.

The Nazis transported the girls to Klettendorf, a work camp near Breslau, in 1942. There, they were forced to work sewing army uniforms. They were able to sew some clothing for themselves. Life and work at Klettendorf appeared to be better than what Sala and her sister had heard about other work camps - but that was about to change.

At the end of 1943, they were sent to Ludwigsdorf, a sub-camp of the Gross Rosen concentration camp complex in Germany. There, they were forced to work in an ammunition factory. Their hair, the whites of their eyes, and their nails all turned red, the color of the gunpowder they were handling. Sala and her sister were forced to sleep together on hard beds and without enough clothing to wear; they went around almost naked. The Nazis rationed minimal food to the forced laborers in Ludwigsdorf, allowing only watery soup and one piece of bread each day.

At Ludwigsdorf. Sala's sister met her future husband – Shmulek - who was at a neighboring camp. A resourceful man, he was able to arrange for extra food. However, getting the food, from a hidden location, was dangerous. If caught, one would be shot by the Nazis. Sala summoned great courage, strength and selflessness in routinely retrieving the food and sharing it with her sister and others.



**Sala and Izak Elbaum**

Sala and her sister were liberated on May 9, 1945 when she was barely 19 years old. From their family, only their brother Volve survived. What was once an immediate family of seven had now been depleted to three. After the war, Sala met and married Izak Elbaum, also a Shoah survivor and the brother of a woman, Sheva Elbaum, she had met at Ludwigsdorf.

In 1949, Sala and Izak and their son, Steven, who was born in a displaced persons camp in Schwandorf, Germany in December 1948, immigrated to the United States. Sala and Izak had two more children, Trudy and Danny. Their children produced seven grandchildren.

The lighter of this candle never got to meet his Nanny Sala, who passed away in 1978 before he was born. All of Sala's grandchildren attended Jewish Day Schools and are active in their respective Jewish communities and in various Holocaust remembrance initiatives.

Nanny Sala was much beloved by her friends and family in the United States and elsewhere. To this day, friends and family weep spontaneously at the mention of her name and recollection of her good nature, kindness, selflessness and Yiddishe heart.

Lawrence Elbaum will light the next candle in memory of Sala Bierman Elbaum.

### **Alex and Evelyn Friedman**

Alex Friedman was born in 1930 and grew up in Kashau, Czechoslovakia in a middle class home, Hasidic in its traditions and modern in its intellectual horizons. His father worked as a controller at a large grain company and his mother was a home-maker. He was the middle child of 3 children and attended both the local Jewish public school and religious school.

In 1938, Kashau and its environs were annexed by Hungary. The 11,000 Jews of Kashau (about one third of its population) led a relatively normal life until the Germans began deporting Jews from Hungary in the spring of 1944. In April of that year Jews were herded into a Jewish-owned brick factory at the outskirts of the town which served as a ghetto. Eventually, three trains of cattle cars left the brick factory, each carrying over 3,000 Jews to Auschwitz. Alex and his family were on the last train. Upon arrival, in June, Alex's mother and younger sister (who was nine at the time) were sent to the gas chambers.

Although Alex was only 13, he was mature looking for his age enabling him to become a slave laborer in various labor camps. For the first six months, he, his father and older brother Avraham Yaakov were able to stay together in Auschwitz and in various work camps in Silesia.

In January of 1945, Alex and his brother were forced to march hundreds of miles in the freezing weather from Silesia, Poland to the Ebensee, a concentration camp in central Austria. Shortly after their arrival in early March, his brother died and Alex was left alone.



**The Friedman Family**

In the camp, Alex worked in miles-long tunnels which the German had the surviving slave laborers dig into the sides of mountains in an effort to build bomb-proof munitions factories. His job was to carry the drill bits for the jackhammers which frequently broke and needed to be replaced.

Ebensee was liberated by the American army on the last day of World War II. Alex recounts watching an American tank roll over the concentration camp gate and recalls vividly how an enormous African American soldier came out of the tank picked him up, put him on the side of the tank and gave him his first Hershey's chocolate bar.

After recuperating for several months, Alex made his way back to Kaschau in the hopes of finding his father, but learned that he had died in April, three days before the camp where he was held was liberated. Fearing the occupying Soviets restraints, he took one of the last flights of the departing British Royal Air Force to a place he had never heard of, Northern Ireland.

He spent six months in a refugee farm settlement in Ireland, before moving to London where he lived and worked until 1949, when he received his visa to immigrate to the United States. Here, Alex began working in the jewelry business on 47<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan where he still works. He married Evelyn in 1956 and they have been living in Forest Hills, Queens ever since.

Evelyn Friedman, née Goldenberg, was born in Antwerp, Belgium in the late 1930s. She and her older brother, who lives in Kiryas Joel, New York, are both survivors. Their parents were Hungarian-speaking immigrants who moved to Belgium in the 1920s. Her father had a small textile workshop and was active in the Zionist Revisionist movement. Germany occupied Belgium in 1940 and many restrictions were placed on Jews. Evelyn's father was arrested one night in the summer of 1941 for violating a curfew (he had been meeting with other Jews to plan how to deal with the restrictions) and was beaten to death by the German police during questioning. The police returned the body to the

family and stated that he died of a heart attack. Evelyn remembers her father's funeral when she was four years old.

In 1942, when the Germans began deporting Jews who were not Belgian citizens, Evelyn's mother (a Hungarian citizen) took the children into hiding. They moved to a non-Jewish section of Antwerp and adopted non-Jewish names and personas. Her mother pretended that she had a Flemish husband who was working in a factory in Germany.

Using false papers, the family lived that way for many months until Evelyn's mother, fearful of denunciations, placed Evelyn in a convent and her brother in a monastery. Every second Sunday, their mother would visit them, alternately. She lived in a convent for over a year and then with non-Jewish farmer in rural Belgium.

When the war ended, their mother returned to collect them. They lived in Antwerp for nine years, where Evelyn attended the Jewish Bais Yaakov school for girls and worked. The family finally immigrated to the United States in 1953 and moved to Brooklyn. Evelyn married Alex in 1956.

Alex and Evelyn have 4 children, 9 grandchildren and one great-grandchild of whom they are all proud. They have been active members of the New York Jewish community for many years. Among the groups in which Alex has been involved, is the successor to the Zionist Revisionist movement in which Evelyn's father was active in Antwerp. They are also proud that they were able to give all their children a broad religious and secular education that they themselves were not able to receive.

The next candle will be lit by Alex and Evelyn Friedman, accompanied by two of their four children, Aaron Friedman, a real estate attorney in Manhattan, and Naftali Friedman.

### **Lola Kaplan**

I light a candle today to honor my mother, Lola Kaplan, a survivor of the Nazi labor and concentration camps. My mom was born in Zwolen, Poland in 1916. Her father was very orthodox, her mother not as much but she wore the traditional head-covering of a married woman. At four years of age mom and her family went to live with her maternal grandmother in Warsaw, Poland. It was not a happy time because my grandfather, her father, had difficulty supporting his family, and my great-grandmother was a mean woman; however, it was either live with her or become homeless. My mom was the youngest of five children and the only one of her siblings to attend public school because it was made compulsory during her childhood. The school she attended was segregated. Only Jewish students attended. She told me that every day, following dismissal, teachers would accompany the students several blocks to protect them from Polish kids who threw stones at Jewish school children and shouted anti-Semitic insults at them. At eighteen my mom joined a Zionist organization, where she felt at home; she had fun, made friends, and shared the dreams of her contemporaries of a Jewish homeland in Palestine, where they would live free of anti-Semitism.

When the War began my mom managed to obtain false papers which enabled her to travel to Zwolen by train to join her mother and sister. During the trip a small Polish boy on the same train who was traveling with his mother looked at my mother and uttered "Zhid." My mom thought: "This is the end of me." Luckily his mother didn't pay attention, and the boy forgot about my mother. She arrived safely in Zwolen. (My mom stayed in Warsaw after her mother and sister left in order to care for her father who eventually died of starvation.)



**Lola and Sam Kaplan on their wedding day**

In Zwolen my mother got work as a nurse's aide, which enabled her to earn money for food. Several months later she was selected for transport to a labor camp. She would never again see her own mother. My mother was sent to the Częstochowa labor camp, and from there to another, Skarżysko-Kamienna and then to Allach. In one of these camps she reunited with her sister, Helen, who helped my mom survive by working her own and my mother's machines when my mother was too sick to go to work. Had the Nazis discovered that my mother was sick, they would have shot her. My mother and her sister were then sent to concentration camps; their final camp was Bergen Belsen. While on a death march from that camp to Tyrol, Italy, they were liberated by American soldiers.

Following the war's end, my mother and aunt were sent to a displaced persons camp in Feldafing, Germany. There she met my father, an American soldier whose unit guarded the camp. She was very cautious about becoming acquainted with my dad, because he didn't look Jewish. My dad was blond with blue eyes, like Polish Christians. She slowly began trusting him, however, when he addressed her in fluent Yiddish. My parents married, December 1945.

Life in the U.S. was not easy. My mom missed the family she lost--her own mother, especially. Despite the emotional trauma she experienced my mother had a lot of grit. She attended night classes at Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn to learn English. She loved learning, and instilled in her children, my sister and me, a love of learning. My mother was self-educated. She listened to political and medical programs on the radio. She read articles and books on nutrition, diabetes, cholesterol, etc. She was interested in psychology which began when she listened to Dr. Joyce Brothers on TV when I was a little girl. My mom was proud that she read a lot--not only English books, but also Polish and Yiddish so she wouldn't forget these languages. She was very proud that she knew how to read Hebrew when she went to synagogue to pray, which was rarely. When each of my two daughters stood on the Bima to recite a Torah portion for Bat Mitzvah their "nanny," Lola, quelled. Mom's grandchildren were her pride and joy. My mom and dad were so proud when my daughter Ingrid was born and my dad, Sam, would have been just as proud of my daughter Sabrina, named for him. For my parents my children were the continuation of their hopes and dreams. My mom knew she wouldn't live to see her grandchildren marry. She died in 2007 at age 91. A year before her death, she looked at my daughter

Ingrid and said in Yiddish “she looks like a “kallah maydl,” a bride. Mom said Sabrina would be “something special in life.” Her dream was for her grandchildren to have healthy, happy and prosperous lives, and to marry and have children of their own--and to always remember their roots. I know she and my dad are watching over them.

## Henry and Helene Kasha

Henry Kasha came from a prosperous, mostly secular family who lived in Warsaw before the war. His parents owned a pharmacy and an ice-cream shop. Henry was 10 when Poland was invaded in 1939. He and his parents and one aunt survived in the Ghetto, where they were forced to work as slave laborers.

In 1943, shortly before the Jewish Ghetto Uprising, with the help of non-Jewish friends, and bribes, Henry and his family were able to escape. Along with other Jewish refugees, they were hidden



Helene and Henry Kasha

in a tiny, windowless room specially constructed behind the x-ray machine in the dental office of the non-Jewish common law wife of one of Henry's uncles. They remained hidden in that tiny room, uncomfortable, but alive.

In 1944, during the Warsaw Uprising by the Polish resistance, an artillery shell or rocket destroyed the building they were in, literally throwing the refugees into the street for the first time in a year. They scrambled for new shelter and spent the remainder of the war in the basement of a burned-out building, scrounging for food scraps at night. Eventually, after a massive Soviet artillery barrage and vengeful destruction by retreating Nazi forces, they were liberated, at least from the Nazis. Although the Soviet occupation that followed was repressive, it was the difference between life and death for many Jews. A tiny percentage of Warsaw's Jews survived the war. Henry is one of them.

Helene of blessed memory and her family had fled anti-Semitism in rural Eastern Europe, settling in Alsace, France, in the early 1930s. Helene was three years old when France was invaded.

Her family then fled to Lyon, which was supposedly in “Free” France, under the Vichy regime. Eventually, the Vichy regime itself was wiped away, and Lyon fell under direct Nazi control, headed by the notorious Nazi Klaus Barbie. Helene's family knew that they had to leave and through bribes snuck into Switzerland, with other families, hidden inside of a cement truck.

Switzerland did not grant entry to many refugees, but Jews who made it into Swiss territory were safe. Helene spent the war years living in a home in Basel, Switzerland, near the Alsacian border, just a few miles away from her original home.

Helene and Henry met in England in the 1950s and lived in Israel and France before settling in the United States in the 1960s.

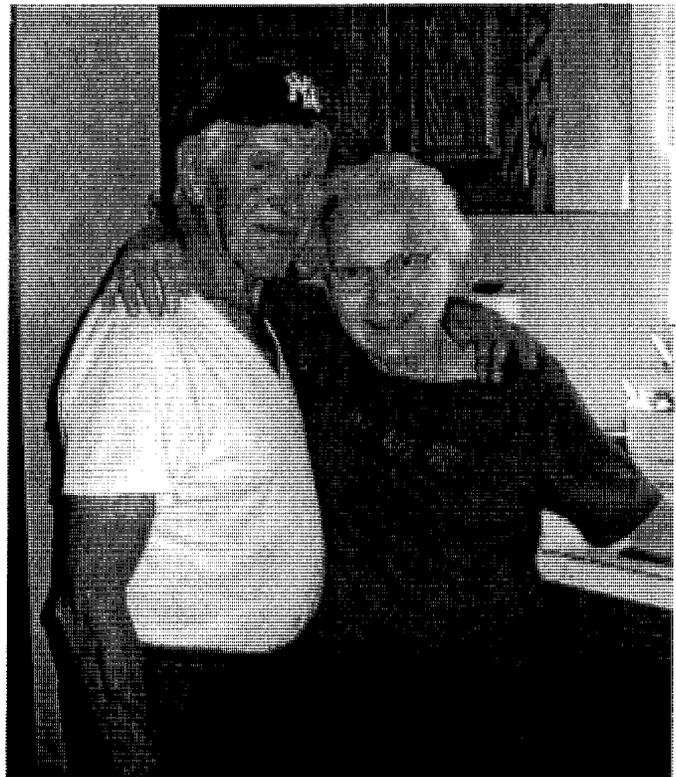
Jeremy R. Kasha, the son of Helene and Henry, lights this candle. He is an Assistant Attorney General in the Antitrust Bureau of the Office of the New York Attorney General in New York City.

### **Julius Kirchheimer and Margot Strauss Kirchheimer**

Julius Kirchheimer was born in Niederstetten, Germany in 1921. He was arrested on Kristallnacht on November 10, 1938 at the age of 16, and sent to Dachau. Because he had applied for visas for America and Palestine, Julius was released after seven weeks and came to New York on August 30, 1939. He immediately set about trying to get visas for his family. His parents, older sister, and younger brother went to Holland in 1941, and on August 17, 1942, they were deported to Westerbork. On November 2, 1942, they were sent to Auschwitz and killed on arrival.

In 1950, Julius met Margot Strauss on a blind date. They fell in love and married. Julius was proud of his wife and of the accomplishments of their two children. One of their sons became an Israeli citizen and served in the army, and his daughter, Janet, became a poet and teacher. Julius tended his vegetable garden each summer, and took care of the birds that came to the feeder each day. He died on July 16, 2011.

Margot Strauss Kirchheimer, was born in Fulda, Germany in 1929. In 1936, when she was six years old, she refused to say Heil Hitler at school and was stoned by other students. The principal told her parents it was no longer safe for her attend school and she was sent to a Jewish girls' orphanage in Amsterdam. In March 1938, Margot came to New York with her parents. They immediately enrolled in night school to learn English and went to work – Margot's mother as a cleaning



**The Kirchheimers**

woman and her father as a night watchman. Margot's older sister was also able to get out of Holland and come to America in February, 1940, but they were unable to get visas for their other relatives and they were all killed, save for one aunt. Margot knew the moment she met Julius that she wanted to marry him.

Margot is a wonderful knitter and loves to make scarves and sweaters. She is a member of the Chevra Kadisha (the Jewish burial society), a tradition that goes back three generations in her family. She is proud of her children and their accomplishments, and of the ways they each remember the Shoah and the family that was lost.

Margot Strauss Kirchheimer and her daughter Janet Kirchheimer light the next candle.

*(A poem by Janet R. Kirchheimer, How I Knew and When, appears on the last page. of the issue)*

### **Bernice Sass**

Bernice Sass was born Bryna Aidel (Bronya) Epstein on November 28, 1924 in the small Polish shtetl of Skalat (now in the Ukraine). When she was 14, the Russians took control of the region, but then in 1941 the Nazis arrived. However, even before the Nazis' occupation, the local Ukrainians, Bernice's neighbors, began to murder the Jews in a display of solidarity with the Nazis.

Before long, the Epsteins were moved to the local Ghetto where they shared a home with the Sass family and these families became forever intertwined. Around this time, her father was executed when he was exposed as a Jew. Bernice also lost two sisters and a baby niece during the holocaust.

In the spring of 1943, the Ghetto was liquidated and all the remaining Jews were taken to a field outside town, forced to dig a mass grave and then shot. The Epstein and Sass families averted this fate by paying a local gentile to hide them. On the day of the liquidation, this person had them dig a hole in a field and told them that it would be their new "home". This accommodation would last just one day, as on the next day—a Sunday when the streets were filled with churchgoers—he chased them away. Were it not for a wild rainstorm that caused everyone to run in panic, they surely would have been caught.

After that they were hidden by a righteous man named Marco Baranofsky and his family in their attic and barn loft. A suspicious neighbor noticed that Marco's wife was cooking for many more people than were in her own family and alerted the Nazis. Bernice and the others heard Marco swear that he was not hiding Jews, even going as far as to say if they found Jews they could kill him with them. Bernice and her family knew they had to leave. Marco tearfully told them to go his fields where he would be able to provide sustenance. Bernice's mother, despondent and too frail to be moved, stayed behind and passed away soon afterwards.

They survived that winter in a bunker in the woods with several other families. In the spring of 1944, their area was one of the first to be liberated. During the fighting, her brother and one of the Sass brothers were killed.

After the war, Bernice was left to care for her 11-year-old sister, Ruthie. With the Sasses, they eventually made their way to a Displaced Persons camp in Cremona, Italy. There, she and her older

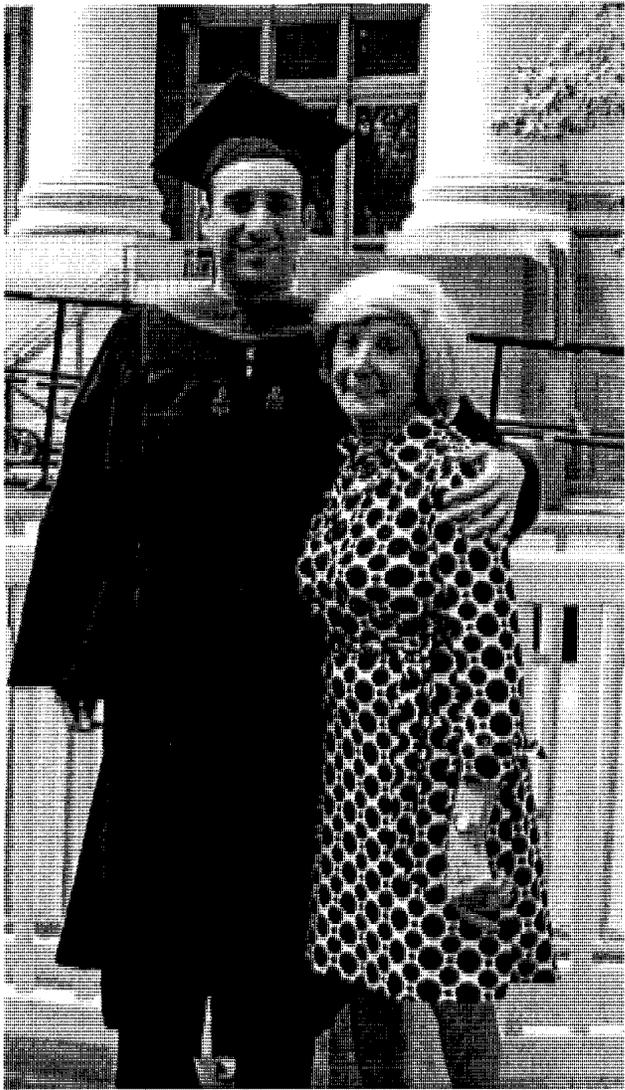
brother who survived the war in Siberia married two of the Sass siblings. Ruthie ultimately married another Sass brother.

After immigrating to the U.S., the Sass/Epstein families became business partners and lived on the same block in Lakewood, New Jersey. They remained fiercely committed to Jewish continuity, teaching their children the importance of remembering the past, while appreciating life's joys. Bernice lost her husband tragically at a very young age. Her brother and his children moved to Israel, but the family remains extremely close. She has had a number of serious health issues in recent years, but remains strong of spirit.

Ultimately Bernice's story is one of triumph, not tragedy. She is a devoted mother of two sons, whose wives are very much Bernice's daughters and treat her with honor, respect and affection. She takes advantage of every opportunity to celebrate and share good times with her family.

As it says in Proverbs, and cited in the last chapter of Avot, "The crown of old age is children's children." Bernice's greatest happiness is from her six grandchildren who are an ongoing source of immeasurable joy, and they all treasure her. She takes enormous interest and pride in each of them. They are committed Jewishly and connected to the land and people of Israel, often moving her to say, "Dos Yiddishkeit gait nisht shtarben mit mir – Judaism will not die with me."

Bernice Sass is blessed to be here today to light a candle with her oldest grandchild Paul Sass, named for her late husband, who is an associate at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman.



**Bernice Sass and grandson Paul Sass at Paul's law school graduation**



# Jack Ratz's Keynote Speech

I am here to speak to you about remembering the Shoah for the 6,000,000 Jewish victims who were killed by the Nazis. For us, Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) is 24/7 hours, 365 days a year. We can never forget.

Three weeks ago we made preparations for the Pesach Yom Tov (Holiday of Passover). At the seder (special Passover meal), we read a special passage from the Haggadah (Passover story), "Avodim Hayinu L'Pharoh B'Mityrayim . . ." (we were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt). I have a second Haggadah wherein I tell my story, "Avodim Hayinu L'Hitler B'Europa . . ." (we were slaves to Hitler in Europe). What was slavery under the Nazis? The slave laborer's fate was to be worked to death as part of the overall plan of the Holocaust, his fate implemented by the Nazi regime as one of their means of destroying the Jewish people; Nazis ideology fought Judaism in all ways. We Jews had tragically suffered the consequences of destructive ideologies physically and spiritually. Nazism regarded religious and secular Jewish culture as its greatest threat.

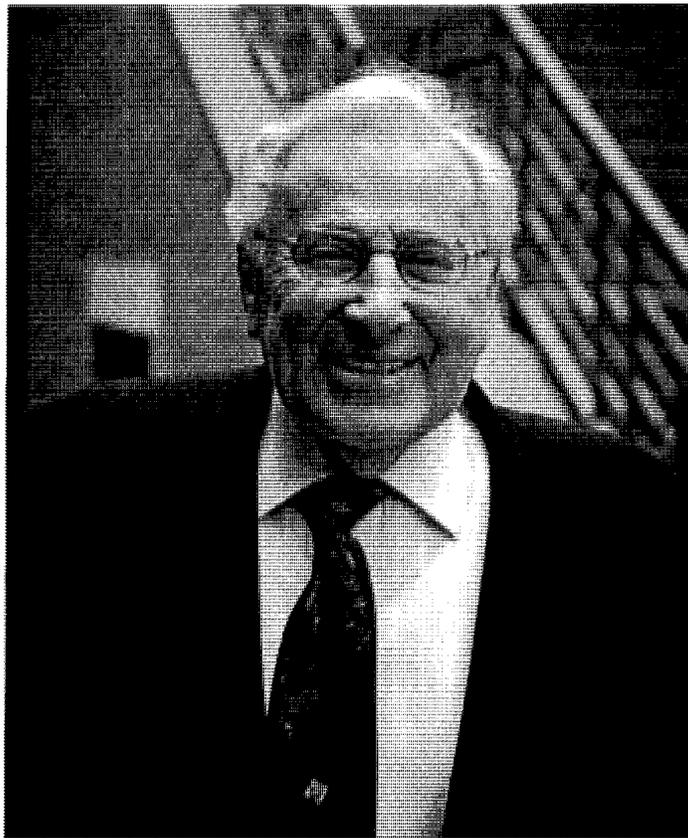
I am a Jewish survivor of Riga, Latvia, with a pre-war population of 100,000 Jewish residents. On December 8, 1941, the Nazis murdered over 99% of the Jewish population including my mother and brothers. That date is engraved on my ring. I am among the 300 survivors of that ghetto cleansing and was forced to suffer through 2 ghettos, 4 work camps, 2 concentration camps and 2 death marches. I am here today as one who emerged miraculously from the kingdom of death.

I came here as one who miraculously emerged from the kingdom of death. It is the hatred of Jews that culminated in the Holocaust. It started with speeches, then burning our holy books, Torah scrolls, and synagogues, and ended with burning our people. Today, I recall events that took place over seven decades ago, the murder of six million of our people, among them one and a half million children, all denied the right to achieve their life potential.

We must never forget the step by step process of how the hatred of the Jews resulted in the Holocaust. The Holocaust was systematically planned, set and fueled with the aim of killing an entire Jewish nation, extinguishing their culture and extinguishing others deemed unworthy to live. Remember, each one who perished was someone's father, mother, son, daughter, sister, brother and friend, and every single one was a child of G-D. They killed my mother and my brothers "al kiddush Hashem" (in the sanctification of G-d's name).

It was the Nazi government which planned the Holocaust for all Jewish people. Historically, there was never an occurrence where a supposedly civilized nation exhibited such brutal hatred towards another nation to kill over 6,000,000 Jewish people for no reason at all. It was indescribable, and for some unbelievable. The Holocaust will forever stand as a testament to the ability of supposedly civilized and progressive society to treat Jews in the most horrific of ways.

The evil of the Holocaust is singular, yet its lessons are universal. I did not choose my circumstances or trials but I chose how to respond to them. The cruel struggle for survival toughened us as individuals. We will always have a survival mentality for the rest of our lives, because we experienced the worst inhumanities such as hunger, cold, filth and degradation. We were in the pit of hell.



**Jack Ratz**

For me the Holocaust started on July 1, 1941, and ended on March 10, 1945. I went through hell as a teenager for 44 months and for 1320 days. The memories I have during my incarceration are indescribable and will remain with me for as long as I live. My life was worthless under the clutches of murderers who called themselves the supreme and master race. In the third chapter of Megillat Eicha (Lamentations 3:1), it is written, “Ani hagever ra’ah ani” (I am a man who has witnessed suffering and affliction).

At this juncton, I simply highlight how I experienced profound torture and inhuman conditions during the last six months of slavery before my liberation. True, there were no more ghettos or work camps to survive in, only concentration camps and death marches. We were crowded into open box cars, 75-100 slaves in each car, traveling to nowhere for days and sometimes weeks. We were locked up with no food, no medical or toilet facilities in sub-freezing weather without proper clothing – standard operating torture procedures. One miracle I experienced was escaping from a death brigade, charged with exhuming the bodies of the Nazi-murdered victims and burning them to erase any trace of the atrocities. I acquired a capacity for adapting to all kinds of conditions and this is what it meant to have Holocaust high school education.

As a teenager, I left Germany, a country filled with Jewish blood, from a Displaced Person’s camp, and arrived in the United States on November 10, 1947, with \$7 in my pocket given to me by the Hebrew Immigration Aid Society on the army ship. I had no knowledge of the English language nor a profession, but with high hopes, determination, faith, and courage, I strived to live and build a new life, all the while carrying my memories of the tragedies, horror, death and cruelty never witnessed before. Many years have passed since these atrocities took place, but these unhealed wounds keep on bleeding in my heart for as long as I live. Nonetheless, I cannot thank G-d enough for the miracles that occurred to me.

But our journey through the Holocaust as teenagers gave us hope, inspiration, courage and faith and we have survived, thrived and kept our faith. Unfortunately we have survived and live our lives without our pre-war relatives. We were not able to sit shiva (religiously mourn) or say Kaddish (a daily prayer by mourners for deceased family members) for our relatives. We have no cemeteries to go to or tombstones or headstones to mark their graves. Only with our future as survivors can we leave our legacy to future generations. You people are our future generation, you are our legacy. We survived to live lives and raise children and grand children to tell them about our past.

We have written books for the world to remember to honor the sacred dead who were killed by the Nazis and their collaborators, and to try to make a better world for all people of all races. Sadly today, we are a shrinking society of Holocaust survivors who lived through hell yet remained loyal to our faith. We survivors feel obligated to talk about what happened. It is incredible that something like this can happen today when a new Hitler appears on the horizon who casts doubt about our experiences. But, we must promote tolerance and help ensure such acts of hatred never happen again by teaching our young people about the darkest period in Jewish history. So few survived the Holocaust to tell their stories and mourn their loved ones. The few are now left to bear living witness and I am among them. We must take the memory of the Holocaust in our minds and hearts and through Holocaust education, we pass its lessons to our children and future generations everywhere in the world

A famous Jewish philosopher wrote in his introduction, " I lived my life three times: the first time when I lived; the second time when I wrote my autobiography; and the third time when I translated it." While writing my book, I too re-lived my incredible survival during the Shoah. I have written my memoir, *Endless Miracles*, from my heart, because the events of the Holocaust can never ever be understood in their totality, in the force of cruelty inflicted on us and our fellow Jews unless we write about our personal experiences. During my imprisonment for 44 months, I gained a lot of experience. My instincts were sharpened and I developed quicker reactions. I also learned to remain silent to survive, while promising myself to speak and write of my experiences should I survive.

It took me many years to speak, write and fulfill the responsibility of sharing my experiences. And all who listen to me speak about my experiences as Holocaust survivor become witnesses too, and will continue my message of the Holocaust. My goal is to help create a society free of hatred and bigotry. There is no time to forget. We remain alert, vigilant and proactive. Because with each passing Holocaust survivor, there is one less voice to say, "I have survived." The important lessons of the Holocaust must be transmitted to the next generation to insure that what was lost is not forgotten, and to strengthen the resolve of those who will repair and rebuild the world.

As you know, there are Holocaust museums all over the world. I call them monuments to human cruelty. There you find evidence of how the Nazis tortured and eventually exterminated millions of human beings, especially Jews. Today, Holocaust researchers, history professors, teachers, and students are participating in seminars, conferences and workshops all over the world. They study how we were able to survive torture and inhumane conditions. They study how the German nation, which took pride in its high level of culture, medicine, education, and science, between 1933-1945, turned morality on its head with disastrous results. They study how the Germans robbed millions of Jews of their dignity, freedom and eventually their lives.

WE HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS are constant reminders of governments who did not act as civilized nations, who closed their borders to people fleeing from death;

WE HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS are constant reminders of doctors who participated in and planned the murders of Jews, Gypsies and the disabled;

WE HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS are constant reminders of thousands who betrayed their neighbors to the Gestapo for pennies or a bag of sugar;

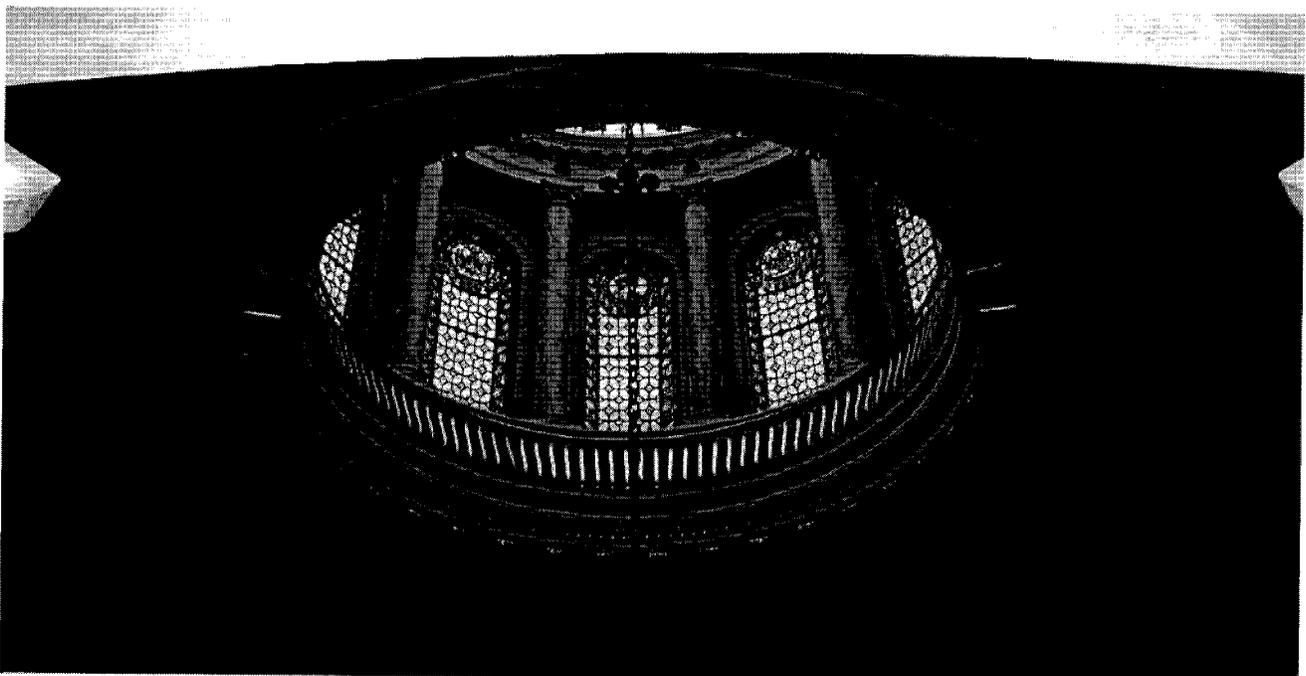
WE HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS are constant reminders of hundreds of train conductors who took the unsuspecting victims in sealed cattle cars to the death camps without giving it a thought;

WE HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS are constant reminders of a highly civilized society that turn itself into an evil one, and the paradigm of human indifference; and

WE HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS are constant reminders that the roads to Auschwitz and other concentration camps were paved with the world's silence.

The Nazis could not break my spirit and with the help of G-D I survived. We Jews will survive, because we are an eternal people indestructible and everlasting. The truth is on our side, so we must never be silent in the face of bigotry and hatred. I believe deeply that all people are equal in the eyes of G-d and that all religions deserve respect and help all the world's people live in peace. I conclude by stating that the best way to learn about the history of the Holocaust is not just through books, but also by listening to a survivor who has lived through it. Thank you.

**Mr. Ratz welcomes invitations from groups and institutions within the greater Tri-State area to talk about his life and the Holocaust.**



## How I Knew and When, by Janet R. Kirchheimer

Age 8 – My father hangs upside down on a pipe that was part of a fence that separated our street from the next. All of his change falls from his pockets. He looks so young.

Age 15 – “There were one hundred and four girls in the Israelitisch Meisjes Weeshuis orphanage in Amsterdam. Four survived,” my mother says.  
“I remember Juffrouw Frank, the headmistress. She made us drink cod-liver oil each morning. She said it was healthy for us.”

Age 17 – My father tells me his father and sister, Ruth, got out of Germany and went to Rotterdam. They were supposed to leave on May 11, 1940, for America. The Nazis invaded on May 10.

Age 21 – My mother tells me Tante Amalia told her that on the Queen Elizabeth to America in 1947, after she and Onkel David were released from an internment camp on the Isle of Man, she was so hungry she ate twelve rolls every day at breakfast. She said it was the best time she ever had.

Age 24 – My father tells me, “Otto Reis got out of Germany in 1941. He took a train to Moscow, the Trans-Siberian railroad to Vladivostok, a boat to Shanghai, a boat to Yokohama, a boat to San Francisco, and a bus to Philadelphia, his wife and three sons staying behind. Carola Stein signed affidavits for them, but the government said she didn’t make enough money.”

Age 31 – My mother’s cousin refuses to accept money a rich woman left him. He says the money has too much blood on it. My mother tells me that in 1939 her cousin had asked this woman to sign affidavits for his wife and two daughters. She said no.

Age 33 – My father asks me to dial the number. His hands shake. He asks my cousin Judy if she wants to send her three children out of Israel during the Gulf War. She says she can’t let them go.

Age 42 – A waiter in a Jerusalem hotel tells my father he should come to live in Israel, because it’s home. My father tells him, “Home is anywhere they let you in.”



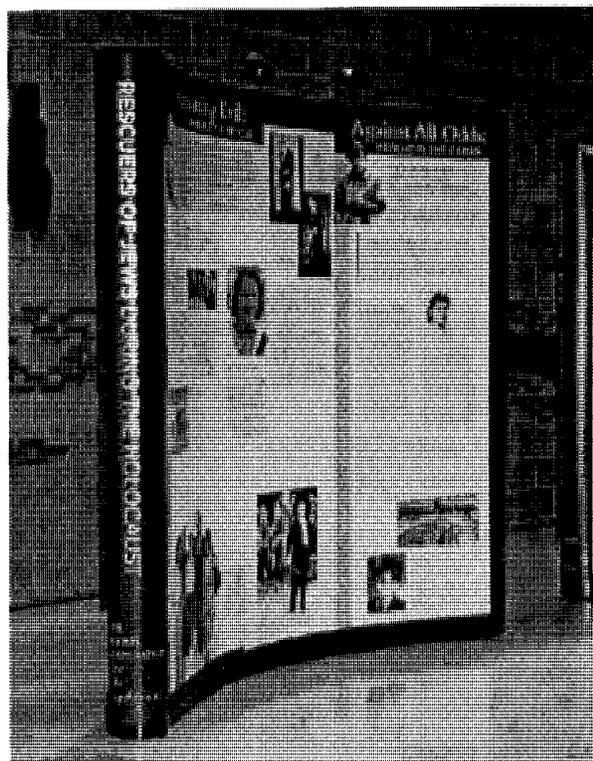
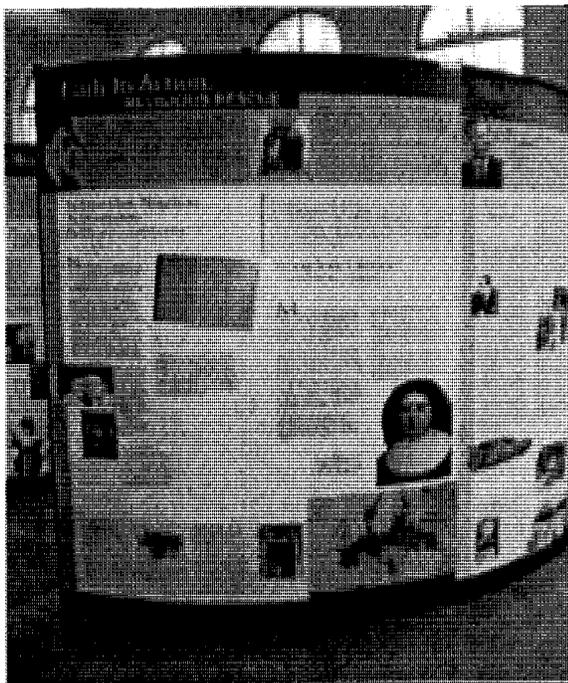
**Left to right: Hons. Martin Shulman and Sherry Klein Heitler (Administrative Judge, Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York Cty.) , Keynote Speaker Jack Ratz, and Hon. Deborah Kaplan.**

## *The 2013 Exhibit: “Whoever Saves a Single Life...Rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust”*

Each year, a visual exhibit illuminating an aspect of the Holocaust composes an important part of our Annual Holocaust Remembrance Program. The Jewish Lawyers Guild’s invaluable support has enabled us to present our past exhibits, each strikingly displayed in the 60 Centre Street Rotunda—graphics illustrating the discoveries that led one Polish town to restore its abandoned Jewish cemetery, notes of currencies the Nazis printed for death camps, and artworks by camp inmates have each made the Holocaust’s enormity and the complexity of survivors’ experience more real to us.

This year our court showcased *Whoever Saves a Single Life...Rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust*, a multi-media exhibit loaned by the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous, which generously waived rental and insurance fees for the occasion. With freestanding, richly illustrated modules addressing themes such as “Rescue in the Camps,” “Shelter and Hiding,” and others, *Whoever Saves a Single Life* honors and showcases the otherwise ordinary people who risked their lives in Nazi-occupied states to protect their Jewish fellow citizens. Accompanying the exhibit’s modules, film clips of the reunions of the rescued and their rescuers were projected on a screen in the rotunda. Hons. Phyllis Gangel-Jacob and Martin Shulman played key roles in bringing us the exhibit, one of the most moving we have had.

The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous not only preserves the legacies of rare non-Jewish saviors, it provides financial support to over 675 rescuers. We urge readers to visit its website, [jfr.org](http://jfr.org), for an inspiring overview of the foundation’s work.



Just Us Holocaust Remembrance Issue editor: Loren Schwartz

*Gender Fairness Committee,  
New York County Criminal Court*

**Hon. Lisa Sokoloff**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**2013 - 2014**

**Name of the Committee:** New York County Criminal Court Gender Fairness Committee

**Name and Title of Chair:** Hon. Lisa A. Sokoloff, NYC Civil Court Judge sitting in Criminal Court

**Members** – please attach a list of your members including their affiliations

Alana Gardner  
Belinda Piters  
Christine Glasser  
Dawn Cunningham  
Erika Edwards, Hon.  
Janet Curley  
Judith Rifkin  
Kelli Sheppard-Small  
Lisa A. Sokoloff, Hon.  
Mauline Murrell  
Regan Williams  
Shehre Yaseen  
Steven Statsinger, Hon.  
Xiomara Bryson

**Dates of Meetings:**

Third Thursday of the month

**Average Attendance:** 7

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** No

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:** None

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:**

October 2013 program entitled "What Every Person Should Know About Breast Cancer,"

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after?** Please attach marketing material.

Event was advertised by posted flyers and email to all NY County Criminal Court employees

Approximately 30 people attended.

There was no press.

Flyer attached,

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

none

**What are your plans for 2014?**

Programs on:

- Human Trafficking: How victims are identified and treated by the criminal justice system, scheduled for May 19, 2014
- Mass incarceration of people of color as a form of legal discrimination, tentatively scheduled for Fall of 2014
- Domestic Violence in the LGBT community, tentatively scheduled for Winter 1014-15

**What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?**

- Reaching women who are used as pawns in identity theft schemes.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?**

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse?** Treatment of victims of domestic violence and the LBGT community.

**Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?** Yes

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects? If so, please list.**

October 2013 program "What Every Person Should Know About Breast Cancer" co-sponsored with JALBCA  
Co-sponsoring with New York Women's Bar Association May 2014 program on Human Trafficking

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

Funding for programs

Dissemination of Program Advertising

**The N.Y. County Criminal Court Gender Fairness Committee**

*In association with*

**Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert**

PROUDLY PRESENT

**WHAT EVERY PERSON SHOULD KNOW ABOUT  
BREAST CANCER**

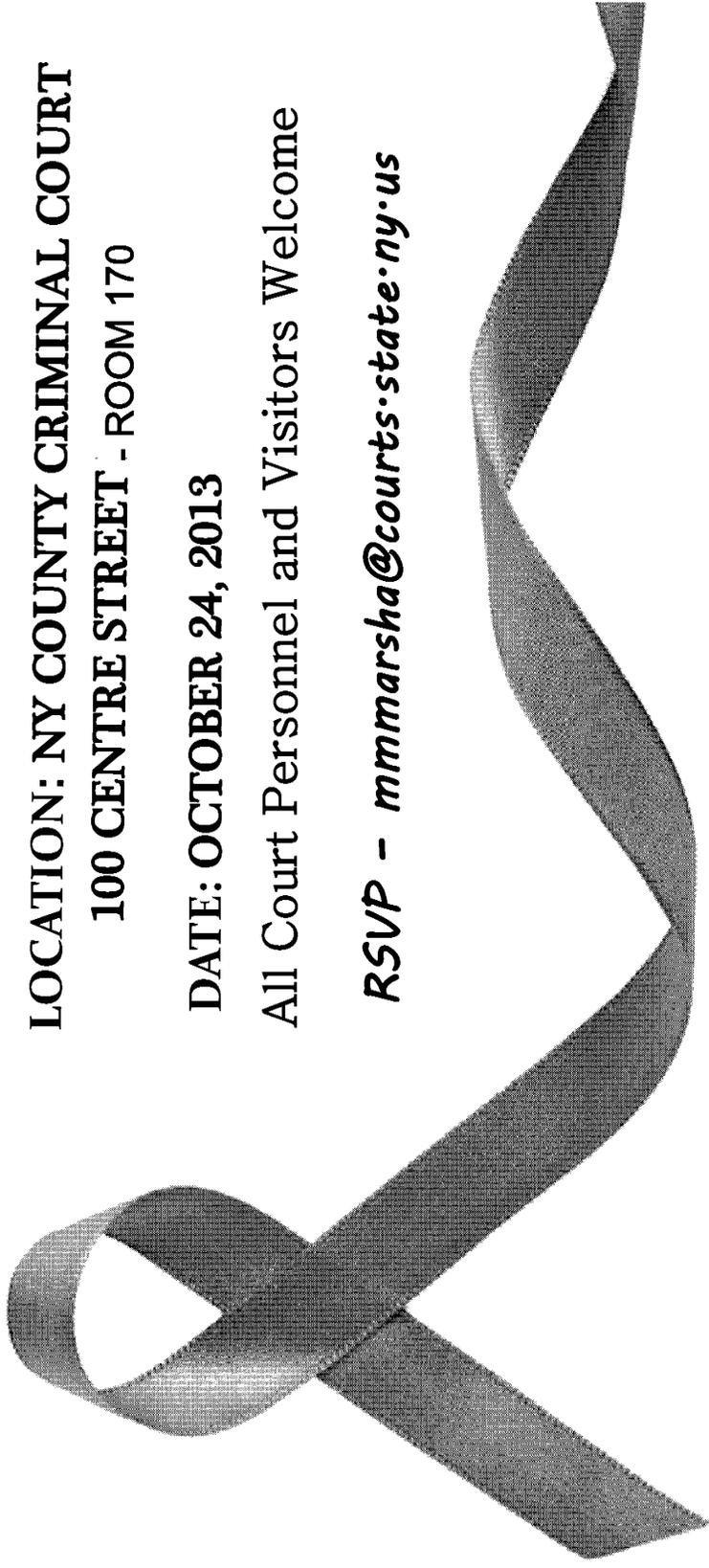
**SPEAKER: MARY SOLOMON SCAN VAN DIRECTOR – PROJECT RENEWAL**

**LOCATION: NY COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT  
100 CENTRE STREET - ROOM 170**

**DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2013**

All Court Personnel and Visitors Welcome

***RSVP - [mmmarsha@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:mmmarsha@courts.state.ny.us)***



***Light Refreshments Will Be Served***

*Kings County Gender Fairness Committee (Supreme Court, Civil Term)*

**Hon. Gloria Dabiri, Chair**

**SUPREME COURT KINGS COUNTY  
GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE  
CIVIL TERM**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2013-2014**

**1. NAME OF THE COMMITTEE.**

Supreme Court Kings County Gender Fairness Committee — Civil Term.

**2. NAME AND TITLE OF CHAIR.**

Justice Gloria M. Dabiri.

**3. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.**

Hon. Rachel Adams

Hon. Betsy Barros

Hon. Bernadette Bayne

Hon. Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix

Hon. Karen B. Rothenberg

Hon. Marsha Steinhardt

Hon. Nancy Sunshine

Hon. Delores Thomas

Hon. Albert Tomei

Hon. Michelle Weston

Loretta Argiro

Major Luz Bryan

Hon. Sylvia Ash

Hon. Wavny Toussaint

Lisa Cruz

Lucinda DiSalvo

Donna Farrell

Noel Hinds

Dina James

Izetta Johnson

Grace Machuca

Yvonne Marin, Esq.

Jeanette Mercedes, Esq.

Roderick E. Randall

Leah Richardson

Noreen Soto-Fier, Esq.

Pamela Goldsmith

**4. DATES OF MEETINGS.**

February 21, 2013, February 27, 2013, March 20, 2013, October 10, 2013,  
October 16, 2013.

Most of the Committee's work is performed in subcommittees.

**5. AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.**

6.

**6. VIDEO CONFERENCING.**

No.

**7. ACTIVITIES FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH – 2013.**

**“SHINE THE LIGHT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE” INITIATIVE.** October 20, 2013 (Domestic Violence Awareness Day). The Gender Fairness Committee in conjunction with the Office of the Kings County Clerk, court officers and court administration set up stations throughout the courthouse, from which domestic violence literature and purple ribbons were distributed. More than 600 ribbons were distributed to court personnel, attorneys and other members of the public. Members of this subcommittee were Grace Machuca, Chair, Sarita Whitehead, Sylvia Rodriguez, Dawn Sajecki, Loretta Argiro Mary Ellen Pascone and Dina James.

**“HALLOWEEN COSTUME DRIVE”** benefitting children residing in domestic violence shelters. In October 2013 court employees donated costumes, masks, trick-or-treat bags, flashlights and candy to The Center Against Domestic Violence. Members of this subcommittee included Loretta Argiro, Grace Machuca and Dina James.

**8. WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH ACTIVITIES.**

“The Ruth E. Moskowitz Award” program and reception held on March 20, 2013. In keeping with the National Women’s History Month 2013 theme — “Women Inspiring Innovation Through Imagination” — The Gender Fairness Committee honored several of Brooklyn’s renowned female chefs: Sohui Kim of “The Good Fork;” Carmen Rodriguez, Gina Madera and Michelle Caballero owners of “Brooklyn Cupcake” and Kube Kassaye of “The River Club/The Peninsula.” Approximately 30 people attended the program and reception. Members of this subcommittee included Justice Marsha Steinhardt, Justice Gloria Dabiri, Justice Rachel Adams, Yvonne Marin, Esq., Major Luz Bryan and Grace Machuca. The event was co-sponsored by the Brooklyn Women’s Bar Association.

**9. ADVERTISEMENT/MARKETING —** Announcements of Gender Fairness Committee programs and events are posted throughout the courthouse and on “Employee Space,” and announced in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle newspaper. Announcements are also sent to other Gender Fairness committees and local bar associations.

**10. OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST YEAR.**

**“BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY,”** May 2, 2013. In partnership with the Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee — Criminal Term the courts hosted children, of employees, ages 7 through 14 from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Justice Betty Ellerin spoke with the children during the opening session, and they participated in workshops on social networking safety, jury service, the youth court, and participated in a mock trial. The event, including presentations, snacks and gift bags, was made possible through collaboration with The New

York State Court Clerks Association, The Association of Secretaries to Justices of the Supreme Court, The New York State Court Officers' Association, The Cervantes Society, The Tribune Society, Inc., The Association of Supreme Court Reporters, The Kings County Supreme Court IT Department, and judges and court personnel. This subcommittee was chaired by the Hon. Karen B. Rothenberg, Yvonne Marin, Esq. and Izetta Johnson.

11. **PLANS FOR 2014.** Ruth Moskowitz Awards Program; Bring Your Child to Work Day; Domestic Violence Awareness program; second Elder Empowerment Program.
12. **IMPORTANT ISSUES OF WOMEN AND GENDER IN THE COURTS:** sexual harassment; professional development; empowering the elderly.
13. **OPERATIONAL ISSUES AFFECTING WOMEN OR A SUBGROUP OF WOMEN:**  
See above.
14. **TOPICS FOR LUNCH & LEARN SESSIONS FROM 1:00 - 2:00.**  
See above.
15. **HAVE YOU JOINED GROUPS OUTSIDE THE COURTS.**  
Brooklyn Women's Bar Association, The Center Against Domestic Violence, The Kings County District Attorney's Office, The New York City Police Department, The New York City Board of Education, The Brooklyn Family Justice Center, The Brooklyn Borough President's Office, The Jewish Association for Services for the Aged, The New York City Department for the Aging, Office of the New York State Attorney General, various public schools throughout New York City.
16. **HELP WE WOULD LIKE FROM THE NYS JUDICIAL COMMITTEE.**
  - a. Dissemination of program and event announcements.
  - b. Assistance with obtaining program venues, speakers and resources.

March 25, 2013

# Brooklyn Women Chefs Honored by Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee

By *Charisma L. Miller, Esq.*

The Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee and the Brooklyn Women's Bar Association joined together to acknowledge the accomplishments of Brooklyn female chefs last Wednesday. In celebration of Women's History Month, the organizations presented five women chefs with the Ruth E. Moskowitz Award. Moskowitz, for whom the award is named, was the first woman elected to the Brooklyn Supreme Court in 1976. She dedicated her life to judicial independence and civil rights.

To help commemorate Moskowitz's legacy, Ann Lyons, Moskowitz's sister and Martin Gershon, the husband of the late Moskowitz, attended the award ceremony held at 360 Adams Street. Supreme Court Justice Gloria Dabini, chair of the Gender Fairness Committee, greeted the audience members followed by a few remarks from Appellate Division Justice Sylvia Hinds-Radix and Administrative Judge for Civil Matter Lawrence Knipel. Supreme Court Justice Marsha Steinhardt presented chef Sohni Kim with the first award of the afternoon. Kim is the chef and owner of the Red Hook restaurant The Good Fork. "I'm fascinated with French and Italian technique but I am also drawn... to the brightness and seasonality of Korean food," Kim has said of her Asian-in-

spired dishes. The Good Fork, opened in 2007, suffered severe damage by Hurricane Sandy but, was able to reopen thanks to various rebuilding efforts.

The owners of Brooklyn Cupcakes, Carmen Rodriguez, Gina Madera, and Michelle Caballero, received their award from Grace Machuca, a management analyst for the Brooklyn courts. Sisters Rodriguez and Madera opened the Williamsburg cupcake shop in 2011. Known for their 'Brooklyn Red Velvet' cupcake and other unique flavors such as rainbow cookie and flan, the women expanded their flagship store to additional locations, eventually adding their cousin Caballero on as a partner. Brooklyn Cupcake has recently been granted the title of 'Choice Chef' for VIP events at the Barclays Center and received the 2012 Brooklyn Small Business of the Year award.

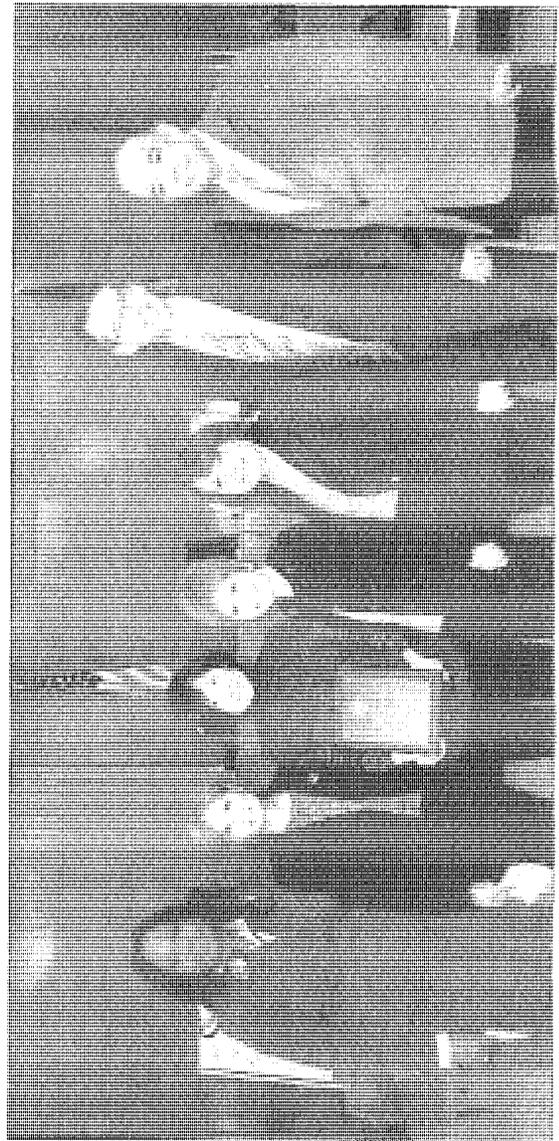
The final award was presented to Kube Cassaye. Cassaye is a chef tour-nant at the Peninsula Hotel and a chef at the River Club of New York. Cassaye, 28, views culinary forms as artwork. With dreams of eventually opening her own Ethiopian/Italian restaurant in the future, Cassaye continues to experiment in her home kitchen.

Once the award presentation concluded, the crowd was treated to a light reception which included a tasty selection of Brooklyn Cupcakes.

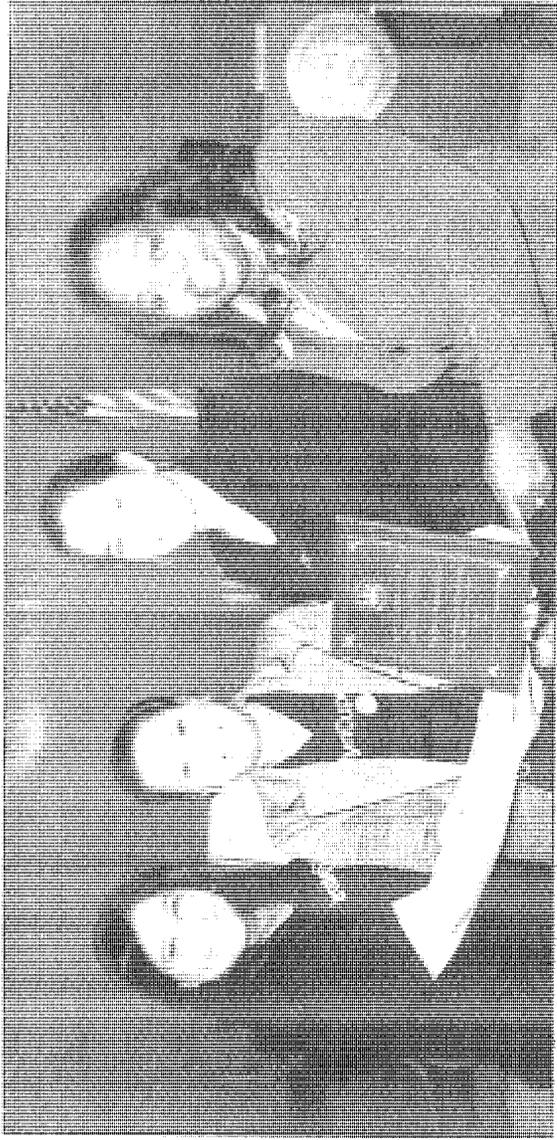


Ann Lyons, Hon. Marsha Steinhardt, and Martin Gershon

Eagle photos by Mario DeLuomo



Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix, Ann Lyons, Sohni Kim, Hon. Marsha Steinhardt, Hon. Ellen Spodis, Hon. Lawrence Knipel, and Hon. Francis Rivera



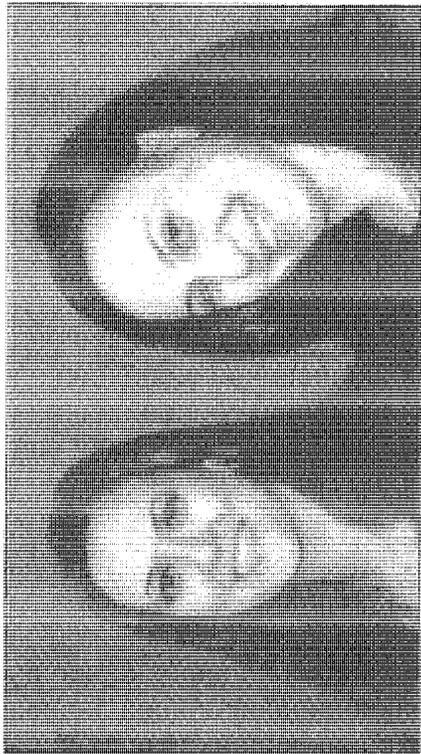
Carmen Rodriguez, Michelle Caballero, Gina Madera, and Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix



Martin Gershon, Ann Lyons, Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix, Hon. Gloria Dabiri



Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix and Kubea Kassaye



Margherita Racanelli, Esq., Clerk to Hon. Michael Pesce and Maria Aragona, Esq., Asst. Law Clerk to Hon. Kenneth Sherman



Surrogates Court Judge Margarita Lopez-Torres

In Celebration of  
Women's History Month

**WOMEN INSPIRING INNOVATION  
THROUGH IMAGINATION**

The Supreme Court Kings County  
Gender Fairness Committee, Civil Term and the  
Brooklyn Women's Bar Association

proudly present

*The Ruth E. Moskowitz Award*

to

**Sohui Kim**

*Chef, The Good Fork*

**Carmen Rodriguez, Gina Madera and**

**Michelle Caballero**

*Owners / Chefs, Brooklyn Cupcake*

**Kubee Kassaye**

*Chef, The River Club / The Peninsula*

**Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 1:15 PM**

**360 Adams Street, Room 319**

All Welcome- Light Reception to Follow

## PROGRAM

### Greetings

Hon. Gloria M. Dabiri, Chair  
Sup. Ct. Gender Fairness Committee, Civil Term

### Remarks

Hon. Lawrence Knipel, Administrative Judge  
for Civil Matters, 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District

Hon. Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix, President  
Brooklyn Women's Bar Association

### Presentation of Awards

Hon. Marsha L. Steinhardt, Co-Chair  
Ruth E. Moskowitz Award Program

*Sohui Kim*

"The Good Fork"

Grace Machuca, Management Analyst

*Carmen Rodriguez, Gina Madera, Michelle Caballero*

"Brooklyn Cupcakes"

Hon. Gloria M. Dabiri, Chair

*Kubee Kassaye*

"The Peninsula / The River Club"

### Reception

## BIOGRAPHY

### SOHUI KIM

Sohui Kim is the chef and owner of The Good Fork restaurant at 391 Van Brunt Street in Red Hook, Brooklyn. Her eclectic and homey, Asian-inflected dishes have impressed food critics citywide. "I try to use everything in my arsenal, technique-wise. . . I tried to learn as much as I could. I'm fascinated with French and Italian technique, but I'm also drawn, because I'm Korean-American, to the brightness and seasonality of Korean food" says Sohui.

Sohui was born and raised in Seoul until she was 10 years old. She recalls that one of her fondest memories of her paternal grandmother, an avid Buddhist, is when they traveled to weekend retreats at a temple outside of Seoul. They would gather edible mushrooms, mountain weeds and cook it up with vegetables from the monks' garden.

At age ten she moved to the Bronx. After two years at Bowdoin College she completed her undergraduate degree at Barnard and found a job with an architectural publishing company. However, "Food started to talk" to her so she enrolled in culinary school and interned at the renowned Blue Hill Restaurant. Says Kim, "my introduction to Dan Barber and Michael Anthony opened my eyes to the world of fine dining and sustainable cooking. After a short stint at Savoy, I started a line cook position at Annisa under the tutelage of Anita Lo and found my culinary voice. I learned an incredible amount from this talented woman chef."

In 2007 Sohui opened The Good Fork with her husband Ben Schneider. The restaurant has emerged from the devastation brought by hurricane Sandy and reopened its doors after a sizeable rebuilding effort.

### CARMEN RODRIGUEZ, GINA MADERA, MICHELLE CABALLERO

Award winning Brooklyn Cupcakes opened its doors in 2011 in an abandoned storefront on Kent Avenue in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. The business was the vision of sisters Carmen Rodriguez and Gina Madera. The pair renovated the 600 square foot storefront, which had been an eyesore for 20 years, bringing new customers into the area, creating jobs and, now, supporting interns seeking to gain culinary experience.

Carmen remarks that for over 20 years she baked for her large family celebrations and for friends. After being encouraged by her friends and family to start a business she decided to go for it. The inspiration started in her kitchen and culminated at the storefront on Kent Avenue.

Brooklyn Cupcakes has set itself apart from the rest with flavors such as Tres Leche, Dulce de Leche, Flan, Coquito, Guava Con Queso, Mango, Rainbow Cookie, Tiramisu and the signature Brooklyn Red Velvet! These strong determined Latinas, Carmen and Gina, have infused the flavors of their Puerto Rican and Italian roots into their cupcakes.

The success of Brooklyn Cupcake has allowed the ladies to expand and to open additional shops. Gina's and Carmen's cousin, Michelle Caballero, has been essential to the expansion and Michelle is now one of the partners.

(continued...)

Brooklyn Cupcakes can now be found in Williamsburg, Long Island City and Dumbo. Just recently, it was given the coveted role of "Choice Chef" for VIP events at Brooklyn's Barclay Center.

Carmen, Gina and Michelle have also dedicated themselves to giving back to the community. They have donated thousands of cupcakes to Pathways for Peyton, a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and funds toward a cure for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). They also are involved in fund-raising and make donations to other non-profit organizations such as St. Jude's Hospital, Friends of Firefighters, Toys for Tots programs, and Road Recovery.

Brooklyn Cupcakes has been the recipient of many awards. Among them are, the 2012 Brooklyn Small Business of the Year Award and being honored by Mayor Bloomberg and Brooklyn Borough President, Marty Markowitz.

### KUBEE KASSAYE

Kubee Kassaye is chief tourment at the five star Peninsula Hotel and chef at the River Club of New York. A 2007 magna cum laude graduate of New York City College of Technology's hospitality management program, she is one of six women to receive the coveted 2012 Legacy Award for culinary achievement offered by the prestigious Les Dames d'Escoffier International, an organization of women leaders in the food, beverage and hospitality industry. As part of the award Kubee traveled to Vancouver where she worked side-by-side with award-winning executive chef and author Margaret Chisholm of Culinary Capers.

As chief tourment at the Peninsula, Kubee supports all areas of the kitchen operation and performs at all stations in both the hotel's Fives Restaurant, Salon De'Ning Bar and Terrace. She also functions as the liaison between the restaurant's customers and line cooks.

Kubee, now 28, says she always wanted to be a chef. She explains that school was not an option in the rural Ethiopian village where she grew up and where her father was a farmer. She was one of ten children and enjoyed being in the kitchen, cooking with her mother. Her life changed when at age 11 she was adopted by an uncle and eventually came to New York with his family. After graduating from high school she enrolled at New York City Tech in 2003. She volunteered for Spoons Across America, which develops and supports food and nutrition based programs for children, assisted in several events at the James Bear House and served as president of the Cooks in the Market Club. "During all of my volunteer positions, I was able to learn new culinary skills from renowned chefs", Kubee explains.

Despite spending her days in professional kitchens, Kubee loves to experiment in the kitchen at home, whipping up American, Italian, Spanish, Chinese and Ethiopian cuisine for her husband, Dereje Abebe. "I just love the different techniques and styles of food. It's like an artwork", says Kubee. Her dream is to one day open an Ethiopian/Italian restaurant.

SUPREME COURT KINGS COUNTY GENDER FAIRNESS  
COMMITTEE, CIVIL TERM AND THE  
BROOKLYN WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION

proudly present

## *In Celebration of Women's History Month The Ruth E. Moskowitz Award*

to

*Sohui Kim*

*"The Good Fork"*

*Carmen Rodriguez, Gina  
Madera and Michelle Caballero*

*"Brooklyn Cupcakes"*

*Kubee Kassaye*

*"The Peninsula / The River Club"*

Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 1:15 p.m.  
Kings Supreme Court - 360 Adams Street

Hon. Lawrence Knipel, Administrative Judge for Civil Matters  
Hon. Gloria M. Dabiri, Chair, Gender Fairness Committee

Hon. Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix, President  
Brooklyn Women's Bar Association

Hon. Marsha L. Steinhardt, Co-Chair Awards Committee

March 25, 2013

# Courts Celebrate 'Bring Your Child to Work Day'

By Rob Abuzzese  
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

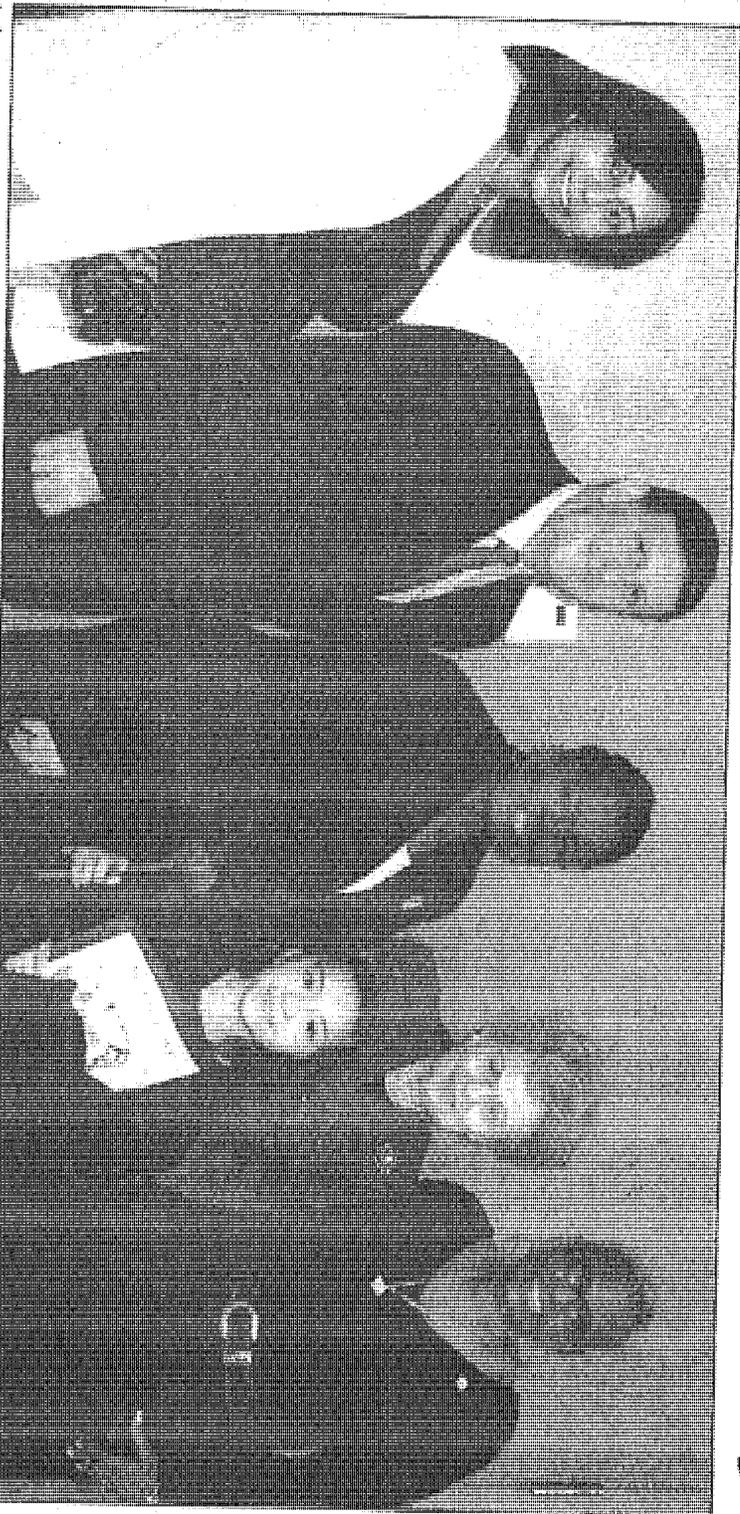
It was "Bring Your Child to Work Day" for Brooklyn Supreme Court's Criminal and Civil terms. The children of judges, court officers and other court personnel participated in a number of activities aimed at dissecting the many facets of the judicial system for a child's mind's eye.

Hosted by the Kings County Supreme Court Gender-Fairness Committee, "Bring Your Child to Work Day" has been an active program for 20 years. The event initially started out as "Bring Your Daughter to Work Day," but the courts changed "daughter" to "child" in an attempt to make the event more inclusive.

"I was 12 years old when I decided that I wanted to become a lawyer," retired Appellate Division Justice Betty Ellen explained, "so perhaps, this will inspire some of the children to do the same. Judges aren't the whole court either - there are many jobs that we expose the kids to." Ellen is statewide chair of the Gender Fairness Committee.

There were various events for the children to participate in throughout the day. One was a "You Decide" mock trial where the children were presented with evidence that had to decide a verdict in the mock case.

Appellate Division, 2nd Department Justice Sylvia Hinds-Radix hosted the "Who Wants to Be a Junior" program. Here, Hinds-Radix informed the kids what it is like to serve as a juror and the important role juries play in the judicial system. "We have a lot of new things for the children," Izeeta Johnson told the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. "We have a



Left-right: Myerme Marini, Esq., Chief Clerk Daniel Alessandrino, Hon. Gloria Dabiri, Lauren Madrid (standing in front), Hon. Betty Ellen and Izeeta Johnson

young court presentation by the Red Hook Community Court. Court interpreters will explain their role in ensuring that justice is served, no matter what the language. The Guns are No Fun" program will inform the kids how to act when they see someone with a gun," the coordinator of the day's program continued.

Johnson and the team of committee chairs, Hon. Gloria Dabiri and Hon. Patricia Henry, created events that would interest children of all age groups; the maximum age for the program is 14.

"He's been super-excited about it all week," Jacque Scifani, a court attorney said about her son Dylan Scifani. "I don't think until today that he had any sense of exactly what I do here, so it was cool to show him and explain it to him."

Even some of the more skeptical kids had a great time. "At first I thought it was boring, but now I think it is pretty cool," said 10-year-old Amari Glover-Gay.

"Their parents all work here, so it's exciting for them to see where their parents work and how they fit

into the system," said Ellen. "It's impressive to them. It inspires awe and usually enhances the parents' position in their eyes because they work in such a grand location."

Organizers did lament that "Bring Your Child to Work Day" is not what it once was. This year, there were between 40 to 50 kids in attendance, but in past years, anywhere from 80 to 120 children participated in the event.

One of the primary problems regarding turnout is that as a national event, the date is somewhat fixed

During this time of year, New York students are taking various standardized tests, making it harder for parents to take them out of school for the day. Still, this event is as anticipated as any other hosted by the courts.

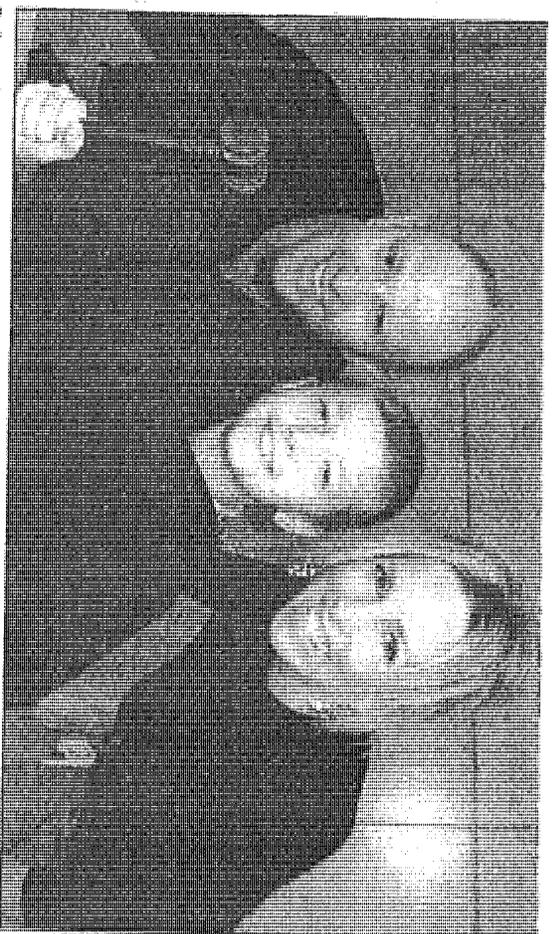
"I used to bring my son every year, and now that he's older I usually bring my granddaughter," Johnson explained. "My son is 29 years old now, but I still have a picture of him as an 8-year-old dressed in the robes hanging up on the wall."

—Charisne L. Miller, Esq.

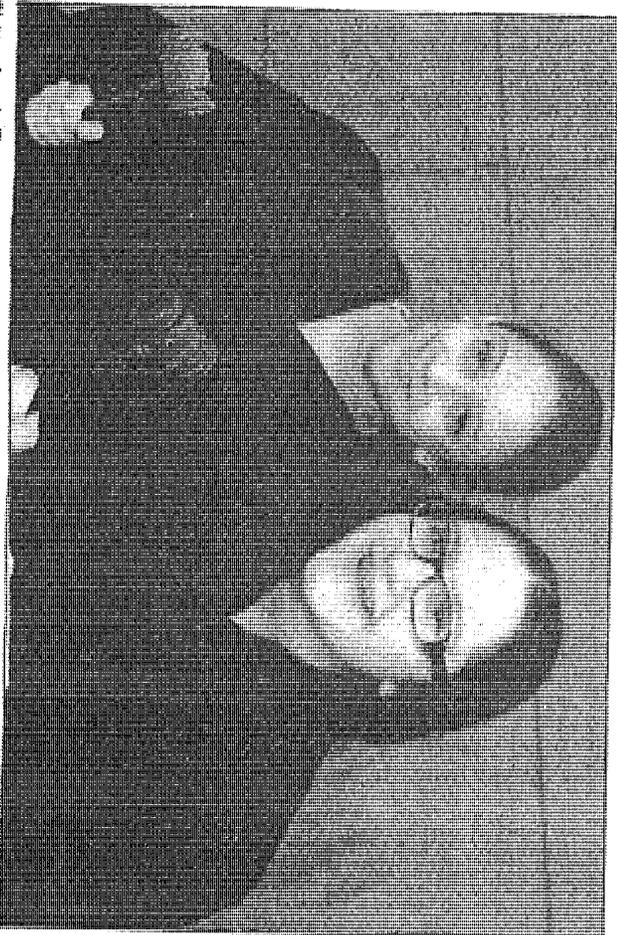
# BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE

March 25, 2013

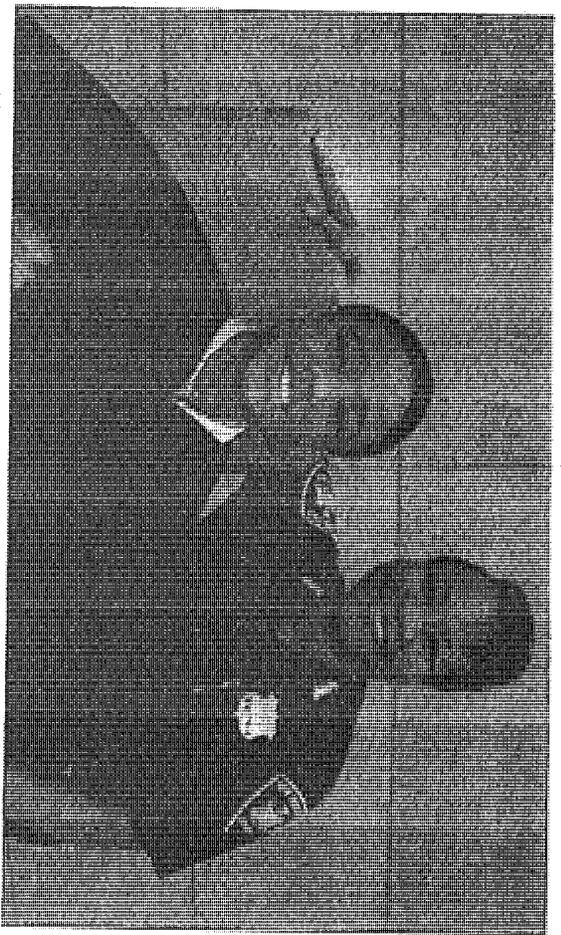
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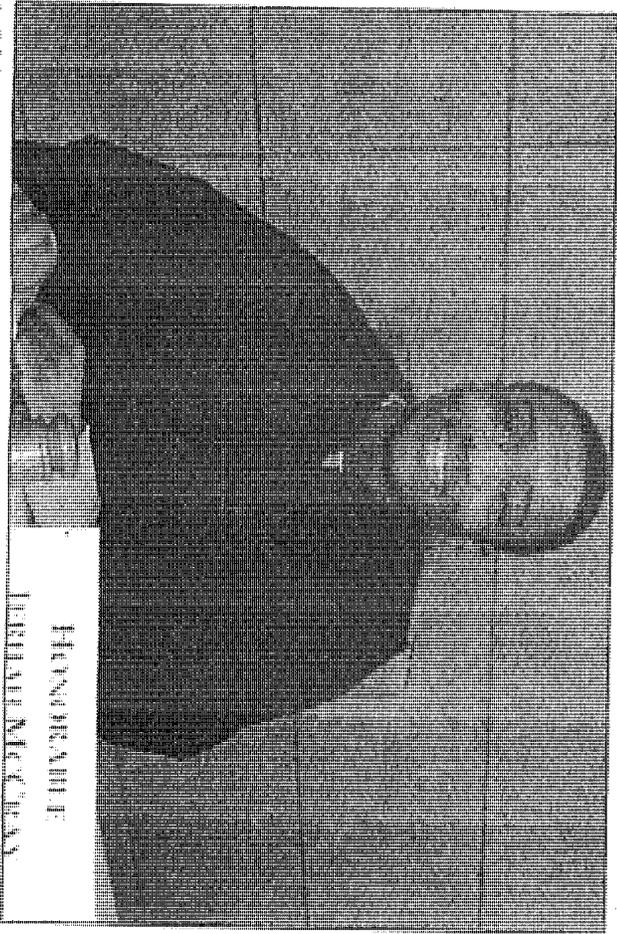
Dylan Scalfani, his mother, Jacque Scalfani, a court attorney; and his father, Vito Scalfani.



Sisters Jeannie Tramontano and Mary Kate Tramontano.

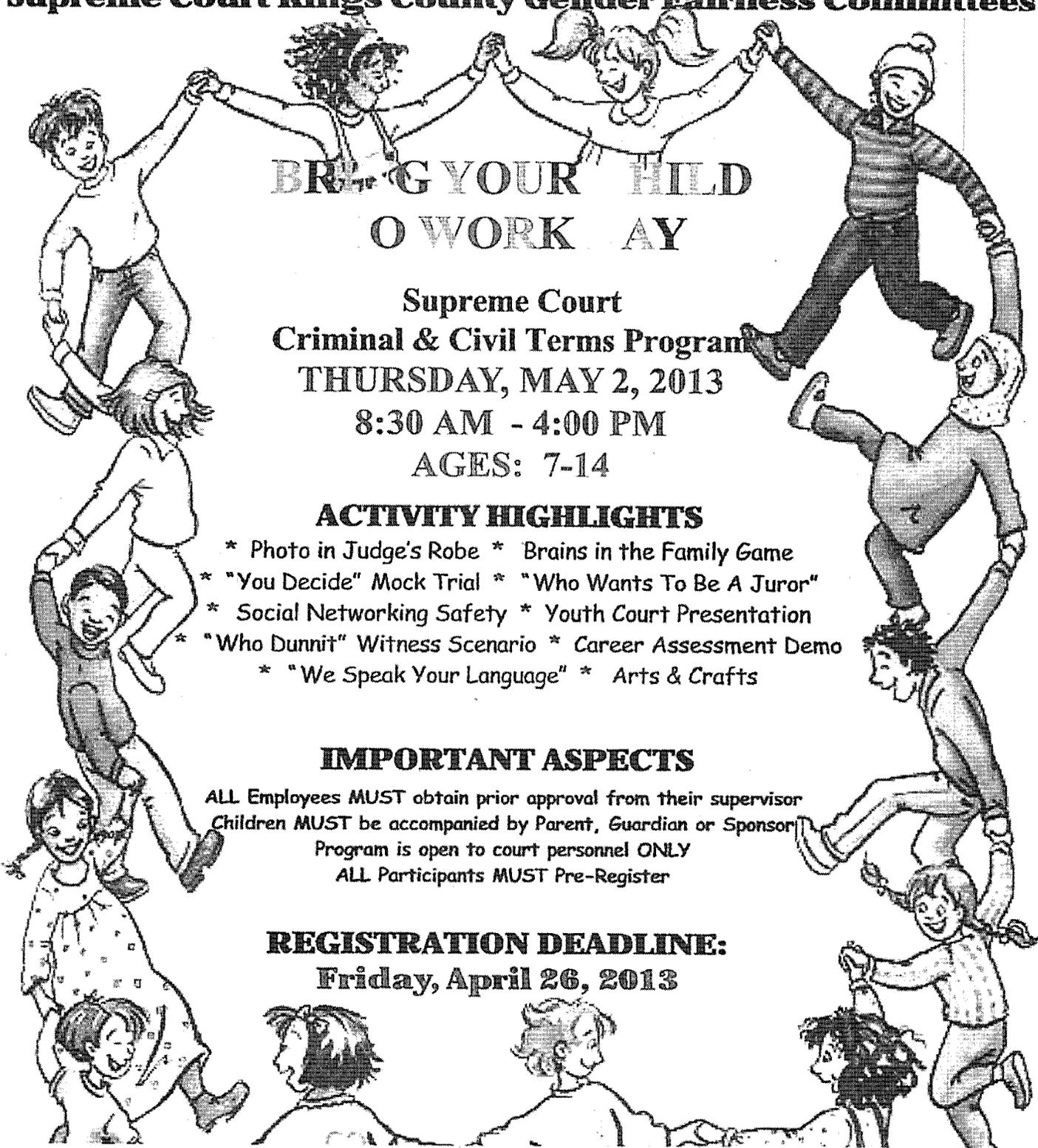


10-year-old Amari Glover-Gay, with his grandmother and court clerk Elizabeth Gay.



Jeriah McCray.

# Supreme Court Kings County Gender Fairness Committees



## BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY

Supreme Court  
Criminal & Civil Terms Program

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2013

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

AGES: 7-14

### ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Photo in Judge's Robe
- \* Brains in the Family Game
- \* "You Decide" Mock Trial
- \* "Who Wants To Be A Juror"
- \* Social Networking Safety
- \* Youth Court Presentation
- \* "Who Dunit" Witness Scenario
- \* Career Assessment Demo
- \* "We Speak Your Language"
- \* Arts & Crafts

### IMPORTANT ASPECTS

ALL Employees **MUST** obtain prior approval from their supervisor  
Children **MUST** be accompanied by Parent, Guardian or Sponsor  
Program is open to court personnel **ONLY**  
ALL Participants **MUST** Pre-Register

### REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

Friday, April 26, 2013

### To Register or Volunteer Contact:

#### 320 JAY STREET

Rhonda West X61919  
Izetta Johnson X61231  
Cindy Cosentino X61046

#### 360 ADAMS STREET

Rm. 4.110 Grace Machuca X61764 Rm. 286  
Rm. 13.68 Yvonne Marin X61564 Rm. 1058  
Rm. 24.53 Charmaine Richards X61684 Rm. 1161



**SHINE THE LIGHT ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE!**



**October is  
Domestic Violence  
Awareness Month**



**NYS Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline**

English & Español, Multi-Language Accessible.: 1-800-942-6906

Deaf/Hard of Hearing: 711

NYC Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-621-HOPE

**Wear purple or pick up a purple ribbon on  
Wednesday, October 16th**

**Ribbon pick up locations:**

11th floor waiting room

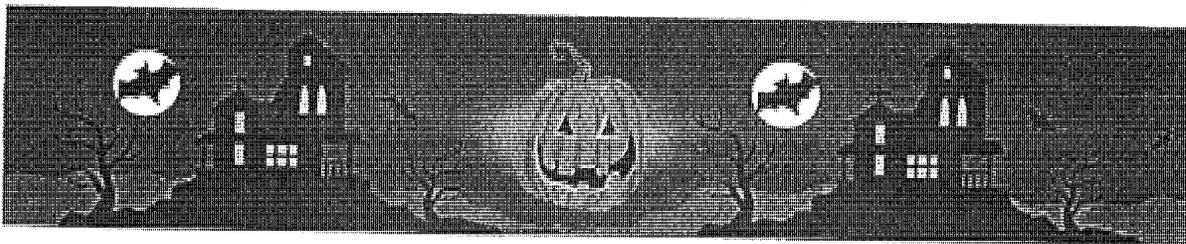
2nd floor lobby

2nd floor employee elevator

County Clerk room 156

Sponsored by the Kings County Supreme Court Gender Fairness Committee - Civil Term

Kings County Supreme Court  
Gender Fairness Committee, Civil Term



# Halloween Drive

benefitting

## The Center Against Domestic Violence

Please help the Center's residents and their children have a *spooktacular* Halloween by donating:

Children's Halloween costumes

masks, wigs, accessories

Trick-or-Treat bags

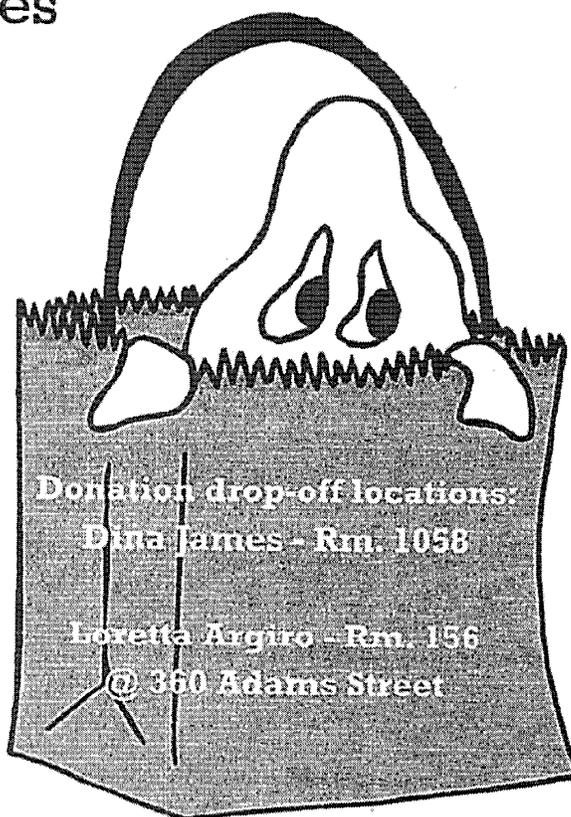
Flashlights & Candy

\* no toy weapons please \*

Donation Deadline:

**Thursday, October 24th**

Questions please contact ext. 61563



*Kings County Supreme Court, Criminal Term  
Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Patricia Henry, Chair**

And

*Kings County Family Court  
Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Emily Olshansky, Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS  
2013 - 2014**

Name of the Committee: **The Kings County Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts**

Name and Title of Chair: **Hon. Patricia Henry and Hon. Emily Olshansky**

Members – please attach a list of your members including their affiliations - same as above

Dates of Meetings: **lunch from time to time**

Average Attendance: **the two judges listed above**

Do you use Video Conferencing? **No**

How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.

**CLE materials were posted around the courthouse (copies of the announcements can be forwarded to the committee)**

Activities in the Past Year are listed below:

What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose? **See below**

Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects? If so, please list.

**The Office for Attorneys for Children of the Appellate Division Second Department and the Center for Court innovation especially Liberty Aldrich**

What kind of help would you like from the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts? **none**

Is there anything else you would like to submit? **See below**

## **CLE COURSES**

Offered in the Ceremonial Courtroom Kings County Supreme Court at 320 Jay Street, Brooklyn N.Y., for attorneys and judges in Kings County Family, Criminal and Supreme Courts. Each course offered one-and-one-half CLE credit hours:

October 27, 2010      Ted Farley, Esq.

Domestic Violence and Technology

December 1, 2010      Catherine Jones, Esq.

Responding to Victims of Domestic Violence with Disabilities

January 31, 2011      Stephanie Nilva, Esq.

Representing Teenagers in Domestic Violence Proceedings

March 16, 2011 Dawn M. Hughs, Esq.  
Victims of Intimate Partner Violence: Striving for Understanding

June 15, 2011 Hon. Lee Elkins  
Comparison of Family Court Article - Intimate Partner Prosecutions

February 12, 2012 Joanne Macri, Esq.  
Immigration Consequences of Family Court Findings Part I

May 23, 2012 Joanne Macri, Esq.  
Immigration Consequences of Family Court Findings Part II

October 23, 2012 Wanda Lucibello, Esq., Tracey Downing, Esq., Kasia Kubiak, Esq.  
Strangulation and the Law

April 30, 2013 Ian Harris, Esq.  
Technology Abuse – Practical Consideration and Evidentiary Issues

June 11, 2013 Emily Sack, Esq. and Liberty Aldrich, Esq.  
Evidence Based Prosecutions

January 31, 2014 Lost in Translation, Best Practices in Communication with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Litigants  
Sheryl Eisenberg Michalowski, Deaf Liaison/Advocate  
Jana Owen, Sign Language Interpreter  
Nicolyn Plummer, Domestic Violence Social Worker  
Christopher Tester, American and British Sign Language Interpreter

*Kings County Civil Court Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Genine D. Edwards, Chair**

## LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2013-2014

**Name of the Committee:** Kings Civil Court Gender Fairness Committee

**Name and Title of Chair:** Hon. Genine D. Edwards

**Members:**

Anna Florek

Hon. Carolyn Wade

Chinyelu Udoh, Esq.

Dejana Perrone, Esq.

Hon Carol Feinman

Lena Ferrera

Hon. Pamela Fisher

Renee Williams, Esq.

Turquoise Haskin, Esq.

**Dates of Meetings:** various dates in October, February and March of 2013 and 2014

**Average Attendance:** 5 members

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:** We hosted a panel of speakers to discuss a domestic violence case from police contact to Court. See annexed flyer.

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:** We hosted a CSI presentation, conducted by a Criminalist from the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. See annexed flyer.

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

We partnered with other organizations regarding activities that promoted gender equality.

**What are your plans for next year?** We will plan our annual Domestic Violence Recognition Month and Women's History Month events.



October Is Domestic  
Violence Awareness Month

# IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH



October Is Domestic  
Violence Awareness Month

**BROOKLYN WOMEN’S BAR ASSOCIATION**  
AND THE  
**KINGS COUNTY CIVIL COURT**  
**GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**  
PRESENT



# ANATOMY OF A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CASE



## PRESENTERS

**HON. JOHN HECHT**

KINGS COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT

**KATHLEEN O’REILLY**

CHIEF OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE UNIT

**DEIDRA BIALLO-PADIN**

BUREAU CHIEF OF THE KINGS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

**DIANA TORRES**

SOCIAL WORKER WITH THE KINGS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2013 | 1:00PM - 2:30PM**

**JURY ROOM - ROOM 305**

**141 LIVINGSTON STREET | BROOKLYN, NY 11201**



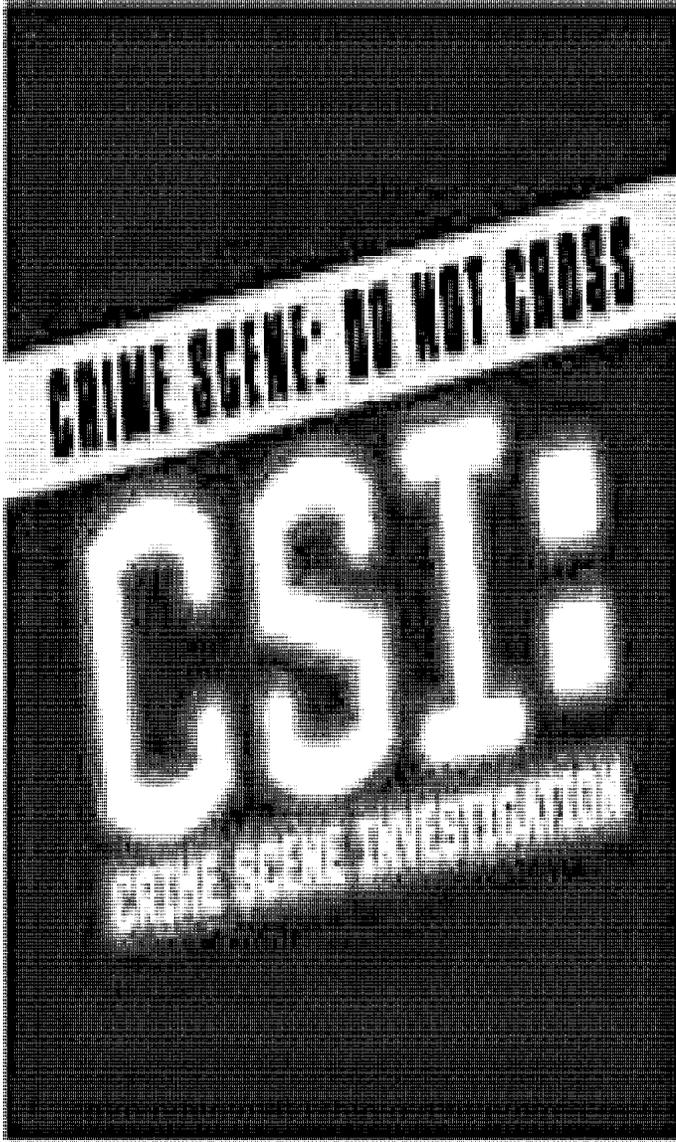
**DOOR PRIZES | LIGHT REFRESHMENTS**

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

# CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**Tuesday, March 19, 2013**

**1:00PM - 2:30PM**



**JOIN US** as the  
**Kings County Civil Court  
Gender Fairness Committee**  
and the  
**Brooklyn Women's  
Bar Association**  
commemorate  
Women's History Month.

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

**Lydia de Castro**

A Criminalist level IV  
Supervisor in the Department  
of Forensic Biology, at the  
New York City Office of Chief  
Medical Examiner will discuss  
the myth and reality of  
forensic science, and why a  
case cannot be "solved" in  
one hour.

**Door Prizes | Light Refreshments**

**Kings County Civil Court  
Jury Room – Room 305  
141 Livingston Street | Brooklyn, NY 11201**

All Are Welcome to Attend

**Kings County Civil Court  
Jury Room – Room 305  
141 Livingston Street | Brooklyn, NY 11201**

**All Are Welcome to Attend**

*New York County Civil Court Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Tanya Kennedy, Co-Chair**

**Hon Lynn R. Kotler, Co-Chair**

Civil Court Gender Fairness Committee Report

February 26, 2014

Submitted by Co-Chairs: Hon. Tanya R. Kennedy and Hon. Lynn R. Kotler

The Civil Court Gender Fairness Committee was inactive for some years and is presently in formation. The goal for 2014 is to host lunch and learn work life seminars for Civil Court employees. Such seminars will address gender, family, health, work place and financial issues. The committee will meet once it is formed to determine which issues are of interest to the employees and will select seminar topics based upon such interest. We will distribute evaluations at the conclusion of each seminar to determine the effectiveness of the presenter and seminar and to obtain suggestions regarding future programming based upon employee needs and interests.

*Queens County Criminal Matter Gender Fairness Committee  
(Supreme Court, Criminal Term, and Criminal Court)*

**Hon. Marcia Hirsch, Co-Chair**

**Hon. Pauline Mullings, Co-Chair**

## LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2013-2014

### Name of the Committee:

Queens Criminal Court Matters Gender Fairness Committee

### Name and Title of Chair:

Hon. Marcia P. Hirsch,  
Judge of the Court of Claims/Acting Supreme Court Justice  
Hon. Pauline Mullings  
Acting Supreme Court Justice - representing Queens Criminal Court

### Members (names and titles):

Felice Barry, Esq.  
Attorney, Queens Law Associates

Irene Boyce  
Court Clerk, Queens Supreme Court,  
Criminal Term

Nicole Burrell  
Sergeant, Queens Criminal Court

Frank Consigli, Esq.  
Court Attorney, Queens Supreme Court,  
Criminal Term

Hon. William Erlbaum (S.C.J. Ret.)

George Farrugia, Esq.  
Supervisor, Criminal Court, Queens County  
District Attorney

Diego Freire, Esq.  
Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Society, Criminal  
Defense Division

Ira Friedberg  
Senior Court Clerk, Queens Criminal Court

Helen Gambichler  
Senior Court Clerk, Queens Supreme Court,  
Criminal Term

Victor Gomez  
Associate Court Clerk, Queens Criminal Court

Donna Myrill, Esq.  
Assistant District Attorney, Queens County

District Attorney  
Aisha Greene, Esq.  
Assistant District Attorney, Queens County  
District Attorney

Delores Haynes  
Secretary to Judge, Queens Supreme Court,  
Criminal Term

Hon. Marcia Hirsch  
Judge, Queens Supreme Court, Criminal Term

Stephanie A. Hunter  
Lieutenant, Queens Criminal Court

Frederica Jeffries, Esq.  
Supervising Assistant District Attorney,  
Queens County District Attorney

Maritza Karagiorgos  
Senior Court Analyst, Queens Treatment Court

Catherine Kwan, Esq.  
Assistant District Attorney, Queens County  
District Attorney

Shlomit Metz, Esq.  
Assistant District Attorney, Queens County  
District Attorney, Career Criminal & Major  
Crimes Bureau

Peter Manzo  
Resource Coordinator, Queens Drug Court

Jennifer Norman, Esq.  
Attorney, Queens Law Associates

Suzanne O'Hare, Esq.  
Assistant District Attorney, Queens County  
District Attorney

Rosemary Serno  
Secretary to Judge, Queens County Supreme  
Court, Criminal Term

Parmanand Pearayall  
Court Office Assistant, Queens Criminal Court

Kathleen Ward, Esq.  
Principal Court Attorney, Queens Supreme  
Court, Criminal Term

Aisha Richard, Esq.  
Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Society, Criminal  
Defense Division

Meggan Ways, Esq.  
Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Society, Criminal  
Defense Division

**Dates of Meetings:** Prior to events.

**Average Attendance:** 6 - 10

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** No

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:**

On October 30, 2013, in association with The Queens County Gender Fairness Committee of the Supreme Court Civil Term and The Queens Women's Bar Association, we presented the Vice President for Domestic Violence Programs, Jennifer White-Reid and the Supervising Attorney, Jae Young Kim, of the Urban Resource Institute, who discussed services offered to victims of domestic violence and best practices for addressing the legal needs of adults and children impacted by abuse.

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:**

On March 25, 2013, in association with The Queens County Gender Fairness Committee of the Supreme Court Civil Term, we screened a documentary on child sexual exploitation and trafficking entitled, "What I've Been Through is Not Who I Am."

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended?**

**Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.**

We created flyers and emailed to committee members, interested members of the Bar and judicial and non-judicial court employees. We also posted flyers in all court employee areas.

Members of the Queens District Attorney's Office, Queens Women's Bar Association and judicial and non-judicial employees attended, including secretaries, court officers, and clerks.

Attendance ranged from 30 to 50 people.

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

On February 25, 2014, in association with The Queens County Gender Fairness Committee of the Supreme Court Civil Term Queens County and The Queens Women's Bar Association, we presented our most successful program to date, "Women and Money: Taking Charge of your Financial Future." Over 68 people attended this discussion of the differences between men and

women in how they handle money, and what women should know about their finances, including, pension rules, health benefits and investment strategies.

**What are your plans for 2014**

We plan to meet next month to discuss the agenda.

**What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?** Lack of promotional opportunities available for women in the courts.

Considering the large turnout we had for Women and Money, this is a topic worth exploring. Many of our younger members are concerned about the high cost of college and saving for same. Our older members are concerned about caring for elderly family members and having enough savings to retire.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e.g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?** Women participants in our various treatment courts struggle to find child care, good jobs and adequate housing. Women with mental illness face additional barriers due to the stigma of having this disease.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 - 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?**

Managing stress in the work place; effective communication skills; online viewing could be an option.

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs and projects? If so, please list.**

We have joined with the Queens Women's Bar Association, the Urban Resource Institute and the Madison Planning Group, Inc. in order to present the above programs.

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

Sharing other ideas for speakers and topics that have been successful.

**Is there anything else you would like to submit?** No.

*The Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts  
Of Queens Supreme Court—Civil Term*

**Hon. Marguerite A. Grays, Chair**

## **LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS 2013 – 2014**

**Name of the Committee:** The Judicial Committee on the Women in the Courts of the Supreme Court -- Civil Term.

**Name and Title of Chair:** Hon. Marguerite A. Grays

**Dates of Meetings:** March 25, 2013, June 14, 2013, October 30, 2013 and February 25, 2014.

**Average Attendance:** 50

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** No

### **Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:**

On October 30, 2013, the committee co-sponsored a lunchtime program with the Queens County Women's Bar Association and the Queens County Gender Fairness Committee of the Criminal Court, wherein representatives from the Urban Resource Institute spoke to a group consisting of Judges, attorneys and court personnel. The representatives from the Urban Resource Institute discussed the services that they provide to victims of domestic violence. The services provided by the Urban Resource Institute include emergency shelter for families and their pets, addiction, and job training and placement.

### **Activities for Women's History Month 2013:**

On March 25, 2013, the committee co-sponsored a lunchtime program with the Queens County Gender Fairness Committee of the Criminal Court. The program was a documentary film screening entitled "What I've Been Through is Not Who I Am". The film addressed issues regarding child sexual exploitation and trafficking. A discussion followed the screening.

**How were your special events advertised or marketed? Who and how many attended? Was there any press before or after? Please attach marketing material.**

A flyer was generated for each event and posted in the Courthouse. Additionally, a notice was e-mailed to all Judicial and non-judicial personnel in the Supreme, Criminal, Civil and Family Courts in Queens. The number of program attendees varied from approximately 25-60 attendees.

Attached please find a copy of the flyers distributed.

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

The committee hosted two additional programs this year:

On June 14, 2013, the committee co-sponsored a lunch time program with The Alliance -- The Gay/Straight Alliance of the NYS Courts and the Gender Fairness Committee of the Civil Court of Queens County. The program was entitled, "Gay Pride in the Queens Courts". The President of The Alliance led the discussion.

On February 25, 2014, the committee co-sponsored a lunch time program entitled "Women and Money: Taking Charge of Your Financial Future". Gary Schwartz, from The Madison Planning Group, Inc., led the discussion regarding pensions, deferred compensation, social security and retirement planning. The Queens County Women's Bar Association and the Gender Fairness Committee of the Criminal Court, co-sponsored the event.

**What are your plans for 2014?**

We look forward to presenting educational and informative programs during the upcoming year. We will continue our joint projects with the Queens County Women's Bar Association. Additionally, inasmuch as our film screenings have been very successful, we will continue our efforts to show documentary films during the lunch hour.

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?**

The operational issue that has been most challenging has been the reduction of court operational hours and the reduction of staff. This is particularly seen in the matrimonial parts of the Court.

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?**

Online viewing and video conferencing would be a useful tool for upcoming programs. We are in the process of developing new programs for the upcoming year.

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects? If so, please list.**

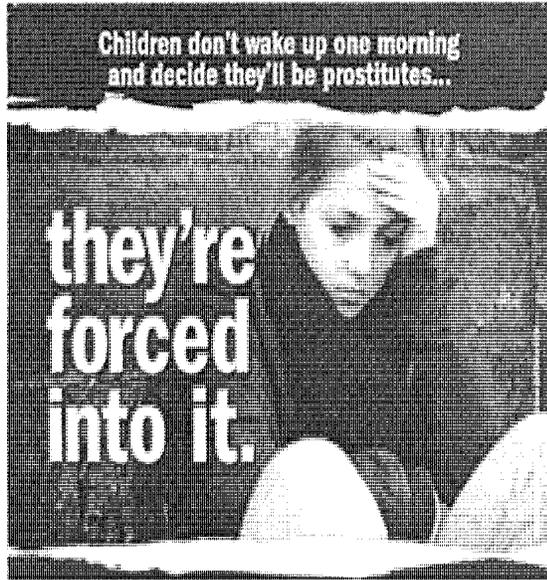
Yes. Most of our programs held this past year have been co-sponsored by the Queens County Women's Bar Association.

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

It would be helpful if the NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts to establish a speakers bureau or to distribute a list of speakers together with their topic of expertise and general availability, to the committees. This would facilitate the possibility of holding additional programs through the calendar year.

The Gender Fairness Committees for  
Queens County Criminal Court  
and  
Queens Supreme Court - Civil Term

Invite you to a documentary screening of



*What I've Been Through  
is Not Who I am*

Child sexual exploitation and trafficking is a complex problem that needs a lot of smart minds, focused thinking, and a comprehensive response from our government, law enforcement, legal system, and everyday people like you and me.

Co-produced by  
[www.ecpatusa.org](http://www.ecpatusa.org)  
[www.witness.org](http://www.witness.org)

*This video gives us some things to consider!*

Monday, March 25, 2013

☉ 1:00 - 2:00 p.m ☉

Fifth Floor Board Room, Jamaica Courthouse  
88-11 Sutphin Boulevard  
Jamaica, NY 11435

Bring your own lunch



Come Celebrate the 2013  
**Gay Pride in the Queens  
Courts!**

*Sponsored by*

**The Alliance – the Gay/Straight Alliance  
of the NYS Courts**

*Co-Sponsored by*

**NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts/  
Gender Fairness Committee**

And

**The Gender Fairness Committee of Queens Civil  
Court**

And

**The Gender Fairness Committee of Queens  
Supreme Court, Civil Term**

*Welcoming Remarks*

**Hon. Jeremy Weinstein, *Administrative Judge of Queens Supreme Court, Civil Term***

*Featuring the Following Speakers*

**Hon. Daniel Dromm, *NY City Council Member***

**Hon. Jimmy Van Bramer, *NYC Council Member***

*Food, drink and dessert will be served!*

**Friday, June 14, 2013 at 1:00 PM**

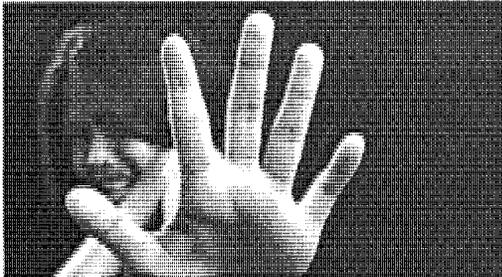
**Queens Supreme Court**

**88-11 Sutphin Blvd., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Courtroom 63**

For further information, call Marc Levine 718-930-5345

***October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month***

***The Queens County Gender Fairness Committee  
of the Supreme and Criminal Court  
and  
The Queens County Women's Bar Association  
Present***



**Urban Resource Institute**

***Jennifer White-Reid, Esq.  
Vice President, Domestic Violence  
Programs  
and  
Jae Young Kim, Esq.  
Supervising Attorney***

***This presentation will discuss services offered to victims of domestic violence by the Urban Resource Institute and highlight best practices for addressing the legal needs of adults and children impacted by abuse.***

***Wednesday, October 30, 2013  
1 p.m. to 2 p.m.***

**Queens Supreme Courthouse  
88-11 Sutphin Boulevard  
Jamaica, New York  
Fifth Floor Board Room  
*All Are Welcome!***

**RSVP to the Hon. Marguerite A. Grays at (718) 298-1212  
or via e-mail at [jloprest@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:jloprest@courts.state.ny.us)**

**Light Refreshments will be Served**

*The Queens County Gender Fairness Committee  
of the Supreme and Criminal Court  
and  
The Queens County Women's Bar Association  
Present*

**WOMEN AND MONEY :  
TAKING CHARGE OF YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE**

Discussion led by **Gary Schwartz** of the **Madison Planning Group, Inc.**

 **Madison Planning Group**  
4 New King Street, Suite 120  
White Plains, NY 10604

**YOU CAN'T PREDICT THE FUTURE.  
BUT YOU CAN PREPARE NOW FOR WHATEVER IT BRINGS.**

**DATE: Tuesday, February 25, 2014**

**TIME: 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

**LOCATION: 8<sup>TH</sup> Floor Boardroom**

**Kew Gardens Courthouse**

**125-01 Queens Blvd.**

**Kew Gardens, NY 11415**

**RSVP: By February 20, 2014**

Rosemary Serno c/o Judge Hirsch at (718) 298-1435 [rserno@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:rserno@courts.state.ny.us)

Joann Lopresto c/o Judge Grays (718) 298-1212 [jloprest@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:jloprest@courts.state.ny.us)

[QCWBA@Yahoo.com](mailto:QCWBA@Yahoo.com)

Pizza will be provided for lunch

*Staten Island Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Barbara I. Panepinto, Co-Chair**

**Hon. Karen A. Wolff, Co-Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**2013 - 2014**

**Name of the Committee:** Staten Island Gender Fairness Committee

**Name and Title of Chair:** Co-Chairs: Judge Barbara Panepinto and Judge Karen Wolff

**Members:** Claire Cody Miller, Esq. and Karen Soren, Esq. – family law and matrimonial law practitioners;  
Rian Silverman, Esq. – court attorney to Judge Wolff

**Dates of Meetings:** April 22, 2013; scheduled April 6, 2014

**Average Attendance:** n/a

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** No

**Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2013:**

**Activities for Women's History Month 2013:** see attached

**How were your special events advertised or marketed?** Yes

**Who and how many attended?** Members community and high school students

**Was there any press before or after?** No

**Please attach marketing material.** – see attached

**Other Activities in the Past Year:**

**What are your plans for 2014?** On April 6, 2014 event for high school students on cyber-bullying and dating

**What issues regarding women and gender in the courts do you think are important in 2014?**

**Do you see operational issues in your court or judicial district that adversely affect women or a subgroup of women, e. g., child care centers, supervised visitation, other concerns? Do you see unmet training needs?**

Child care centers; supervised visitation

**What topics would you like to see developed for Lunch & Learn Sessions from 1:00 – 2:00 in the courthouse? Would online viewing or videoconferencing be a useful tool for this purpose?**

**Have you joined with groups outside the courts, such as bar associations or domestic violence organizations, for programs or projects?** Yes, Staten Island Womens' Bar Association; New Dorp HS Law and Justice program

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

**Is there anything else you would like to submit?**



**THE STATEN ISLAND WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION**

**AND THE**

**STATEN ISLAND GENDER FAIRNESS COMMITTEE**

(a chapter of the NYS Office of Court Administration's Gender Fairness Program)

**INVITE YOU TO A PANEL AND DISCUSSION ON**

**TEEN DATING AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – WHEN IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP BAD FOR YOU?**

Panel Members

*Edwina Frances Martin*, SIWBA President, Moderator



*Victoria Levin*, Assistant District Attorney  
(Office of the Richmond County District Attorney, Special Victims Bureau)



*Andrew Sta. Ana*, Supervising Attorney  
(Day One, the only organization in New York City solely devoted to the issue of teen dating violence)



*Domestic Violence Survivors from the Voices of Women Organizing Project*  
(VOW gives a voice to survivors of domestic violence by organizing survivors to influence, change and improve the many systems battered women and their children turn to for safety and justice).

Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

New Dorp High School - 465 New Dorp Lane, Staten Island, New York, 10306

The event is free; a light supper will be served.

RSVP to (646) 221-9145, [edwinamartin@hotmail.com](mailto:edwinamartin@hotmail.com).

**Staten Island Women's Bar Association**

(A Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York)

P.O. Box 140813

Staten Island, NY 10314

Phone: 718-273-7900 ◆ [www.SIWBA.org](http://www.SIWBA.org) ◆ [info@SIWBA.org](mailto:info@SIWBA.org)

**Edwina Frances Martin**, President

Greetings SIWBA Board Members and Co-Chairs SI Gender Fairness Committee - Judges Panepinto and Wolff:

I am pleased to inform you that we will once again partner with New Dorp HS for the SIWBA Gender Fairness Program to use their beautiful courtroom.

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, April 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 for the program, to take place at New Dorp HS.

This year, we are also partnering with the SI Youth Justice Court, who will be providing a law enforcement professional to discuss this issue. I am working on the additional speakers for the program and hope to have it finalized by the end of this week so that the information can go out.

*Gender Fairness Committee  
Bronx County Family Court*

**Hon. Carol Sherman, Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**2013 - 2014**

**Name of the Committee:** Bronx County Family Court Gender Fairness Committee

**Name and Title of Chair:** Hon. Carol R. Sherman

**Members:** The Gender Fairness Committee is comprised of judges, referees, case coordinators, and representatives from Safe Horizon, ACS, Legal Aid, Bronx Defenders, Children's Law Center, the 18b panel, corporation counsel, Legal Services NYC, Administrative Judge Richardson Mendelson's office and the clerks' office. The subcommittee on supervised visitation consists of representatives of many of those groups as well as from St Luke AME Church in Harlem and the NYC Interfaith Council. Names and affiliations of members are represented in the minutes of meetings attached to this report.

**Dates of Meetings:** November 1, 2013, September 23, 2013, June 5, 2013, March 20, 2013; Subcommittee on Supervised Visitation: November 8, 2013, September 20, 2013, June 4, 2013

**Average Attendance:** Committee: 13; Subcommittee: 14

**Do you use Video Conferencing?** No

**Activities in the Past Year and Plans for 2014:** The Committee co-sponsored, with the Committee on Disproportionality of Minority Representation of Children in Foster Care and Juvenile Justice, a CLE program on Working with Father's in Family Court. The Committee held the annual Dress for Success Drive and arranged for the Project Renewal Scan Van for free mammograms during Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October.

The supervised visitation program at St. Luke AME Church in Harlem is just about ready to open. Anita Parker, the Director will be making a presentation to the judges and referees later this month (March 2014). The program is staffed by volunteers from the church-- mostly retired teachers and social workers. The police precinct across the street is working with the church to assist with security. A lot of hard work went into this program.

The attached minutes provide greater detail of the work and programs of the Committee.

Page intentionally blank.

**Gender Fairness Committee-Bronx Family Court  
Chair, Hon Carol Sherman**

**Minutes  
Meeting, November 1, 2013**

In Attendance:

Hon. Carol R. Sherman, J.F.C.  
Rhonda Albright, Attorney - Children's Law Center  
Mary Jane Cotter, Court Attorney  
Denise Dizzine, CWCIP Liaison  
Esther Halcomb, Case Coordinator  
Kimberlina Kavern, Director - Safe Horizon  
Lauren Lerner, Referee  
Miguel Rodriguez, Senior Director - Safe Horizon  
Jacqueline Saed, Attorney - ACS  
Yosef Seigel, Associate Court Clerk  
Barbara Stock, Attorney - Legal Aid Society  
Rhonda Young, Case Coordinator

Minutes from September 23, 2013 meeting were approved by the Committee.

1) Reports from Subcommittees

- Supervised Visitation in CVO Cases - Supervised Exchange

Nothing has changed since the last GFC meeting of September 23, 2013.

The subcommittee meeting scheduled for October 29, 2013 was cancelled and the next meeting date is November 8, 2013.

2) Proposed Continued Education Programs

- Barbara Stock spoke about the GEMS programs, and the GEMS movie was proposed as a possible C.L.E.
- Judge Sherman would like to form a subcommittee to meet and talk about the Sex Trafficking Project, and would like Denise Dizzine to coordinate. Jackie Saed and Barbara Stock expressed interest in being part of the committee.
- Denise Dizzine mentioned the DMR Committee is interested in presenting the "Engaging Fathers" program. Denise and Judge Roberts will be meeting with Mr. Charles Green, the Director of Claremont Young Fathers Program. Judge Sherman will reach out to Jan Fink as to what is going on with the Legislation regarding "non-respondent fathers."
- Kim Kavern will look into a C.L.E. on DV cases in which the respondent/party is a minor.

3) New Issues:

- Judge Sherman reported Legislation passed gives teenage boys 16-18 years of age a longer opportunity to revoke Acknowledgment of Paternity. It allows 60 days from when they turn 18 years old.
- Kim Kavern reported Safe Horizons annual Domestic Violence Conference will be held at Hunter College on November 4, 2013.

4. New Projects

- Judge Sherman is interested in the committee hosting the “Dress for Success” project in the Winter of 2014. Rhonda Young will coordinate efforts.

The next meeting of the Gender Fairness Committee is scheduled for February 13, 2014 at 1:15 p.m. in the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.

**Gender Fairness Committee-Bronx Family Court  
Chair, Hon Carol Sherman**

**Minutes  
Meeting, September 23, 2013**

In Attendance:

Hon. Carol R. Sherman, J.F.C.  
Mary Jane Cotter, Court Attorney  
David Eskin, Attorney - 18b Panel  
Mara Fleder, Attorney - Bronx Defenders  
Esther Halcomb, Case Coordinator  
Kim Kavern, Director - Safe Horizon  
Sue Levy, Referee  
Mary Anne Mendenhall, Attorney - Bronx Defenders  
Gilbert Rodriguez, Assistant Deputy Clerk of Court  
Miguel Rodriguez, Senior Director - Safe Horizon  
Christine Paska, Attorney - Corporation Counsel  
Jacqueline Saed, Attorney - ACS  
Rhonda Young, Case Coordinator

Minutes from June 5, 2013 meeting were approved by the Committee.

1) Reports from Subcommittees

- Supervised Visitation in CVO Cases - Supervised Exchange
  - St. Luke's Church has now agreed to do supervised visitation and supervised exchange.
  - The sub-committee met last week and discussed the referral forms and the types of cases the program will accept. Since there is no security on site, there was further discussion as to whether referrals should be limited to those cases in which no Orders of Protection are in effect or whether the appropriateness of the referrals should be determined by the Judge or Referee.
  - Judge Sherman will look into a formal presentation of the program to Judges, Stakeholders and Referees once these issues have been resolved.
  - The program is hoping to begin accepting cases soon.

- The Church has asked ACS to be a part of ACS training when ACS does the training for visiting hosts. Jacqueline Saed will look into how ACS can include the church in the training program.

2) Proposed Continued Education Programs

- Judge Sherman spoke about the Gender Fairness Executive Committee's presentation on Trafficking and is interested in the Committee offering this as a C.L.E. The presentation included a Police Officer employed by ACS who deals with trafficking. Mary Anne Mendenhall said she would look into the Sex Workers Project and reach out to Sienna Baskin.
- Mara Fleder from Bronx Defenders will work on a C.L.E. program on the role of non-respondent parents in court, and will reach out to Claremont Neighborhood Services for a speaker. Judge Sherman suggested Denise Dizzine coordinate efforts on this project with Ms. Fleder.

3) New Issues:

- The proposed Bill regarding the role and rights of non-respondent parents in Article X proceedings did not pass the Legislature this session.
- The Bronx Bar Association is offering a lunchtime presentation on Matrimonial Law sometime in early December 2013. They will also hold their Annual Association Dinner in December 2013. David Eskin will provide further details at the next meeting.
- Safe Horizons has made changes in their Supervised Visits Policy as they realized most families only received seven visits. They will now offer families twelve visits in two increments of six. They are currently still open and still taking referrals.
- A Bill has passed both Houses indicating Family Court Judges must deal with issues of property in "O" cases. The Bill has not been sent to the Governor as yet.

4. New Projects

- The Project Renewal SCAN VAN for free Mammograms will take place on October 28, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Court personnel as well as the public can schedule appointment for mammograms. Judge Sherman will reach out to the Court Officers Captain about securing 4 parking spaces for the SCAN Van for October 28, 2013.
- Judge Sherman is interested in the committee hosting the "Dress for Success" project in the Fall of 2013. Rhonda Young will coordinator efforts.

The next meeting of the Gender Fairness Committee is scheduled for November 1, 2013 at 1:15 p.m. in the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.

**Gender Fairness Committee-Bronx Family Court  
Chair, Hon Carol Sherman**

**Minutes  
Meeting, June 5, 2013**

In Attendance:

Hon. Carol R. Sherman, J.F.C.  
Jaime Bunyan, CLC  
Mary Jane Cotter, Court Attorney  
Denise Dizzine, CWCIP Liaison  
Esther Halcomb, Case Coordinator  
Lauren Norton-Lerner, Referee  
Sue Levy, Referee  
Gilbert Rodriguez, Assistant Deputy Clerk of Court  
Miguel Rodriguez, Senior Director - Safe Horizon  
Christine Paska, Attorney - Corporation Counsel  
Jacqueline Saed, Attorney - ACS  
Rhonda Young, Case Coordinator

1. Minutes from November 14, 2012 and March 20, 2013 meetings were approved by the Committee.

2. Reports from Subcommittees

• Courthouse Facilities - Status of Installation of Infant Changing Tables

Changing table have not been installed in facilities yet. Several Committee members inquired about Committee purchasing infant changing tables and having tables installed by DCAS. Gilbert Rodriguez reported DCAS will not install changing tables purchased by Committee. Tables have to be specific size and dimensions to be installed in bathrooms.

• Supervised Visitation in CVO Cases - Supervised Exchange

Judge Sherman reported the sub-committee met on June 4, 2013. St. Luke's Church is willing to move ahead with program. Safe Horizons is not going to do the training. The church is looking for someone for domestic violence and supervised visitation training.

The issues regarding security will not prevent the program from moving forward. The church will look into having retired Police Officers or other Law Enforcement Officers to drive around the building and the church is also looking into installing cameras in front of the building.

There are concerns as to which attorney will fill out referral form. The attorney will have minimal contact and the program will follow through. IDV in Manhattan has some referrals. There is a sense that there will be plenty of referrals from the Bronx.

Safe Horizon's funding has been cut and they are reducing the number of slots.

The Bronx does not have a Resource Coordinator or Liaison for IDV.

### 3. Proposed Continued Education Programs

- "The role of non-respondents and respondent fathers in court".
  - Judge Sherman reported the proposed Bill regarding non-respondent father has passed the Legislature and is being introduced in the Senate. The Bill is in the Assembly now, but not passed yet. The Bill was worked on by the Family Court Advisory and Rules Committee and Weinstein's office.
- Training on the new ACS visitation policy.
  - The training should include clarifying the role of the visiting hosts.
- "Strangulation and the Law".
  - Christine Paska will follow up with the Bronx District Attorney's office. The presentation is over 1 hour.
- "Mothers at Bedford".
  - The film is approximately 2 hours and can not be shown during one lunch hour. Denise Dizzine will coordinate efforts
- "Pre-natal exposure to cocaine" and the role of "non-respondent parents" in child protective cases.
  - Judge Sherman reported Naomi Weinstein will be presenting this for the New York City Family Court Judges at a Master Class scheduled for June 21, 2013. Judge Sherman will speak with Ms. Weinstein about a lunchtime presentation in Bronx Family Court.

4. New Projects

- The Project Renewal SCAN VAN for free Mammograms will take place on October 28, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Court personnel as well as the public can schedule appointment for mammograms.

Judge Sherman will reach out to the Court Officers Captain about securing 4 parking spaces for the SCAN Van for October 28, 2013.

- Judge Sherman is interested in the committee hosting the "Dress for Success" project in the Fall of 2013.

The next meeting of the Gender Fairness Committee is scheduled for September 23, 2013 and November 1, 2013 at 1:15 p.m. in the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.

**Gender Fairness Committee-Bronx Family Court  
Chair, Hon Carol Sherman**

**Minutes  
Meeting, March 20, 2013**

In Attendance:

Hon. Carol R. Sherman, J.F.C.  
Jaime Bunyan, CLC  
Denise Dizzine, CWCIP Liaison  
Monica Eskin, 18b Panel  
Kim Kavern, Safe Horizon  
Lauren Norton-Lerner, Referee  
Sue Levy, Referee  
Mary Anne Mendenhall, The Bronx Defenders  
Christine Paska, Corporation Counsel  
Jacqueline Saed, ACS  
Nanette Schorr, LSNYC  
Patricia Whittaker, Court Attorney  
Mike Williams, Clerk of Court  
Rhonda Young, Case Coordinator

I. Reports from Subcommittees

• Courthouse Facilities - Status of Installation of Infant Changing Tables

Mike Williams reported the installation of the infant changing tables is still part of the DCAS work order. Due to the construction taking place in several areas of the courthouse, the issue is low on the priority list.

• Supervised Visitation in CVO Cases - Supervised Exchange

Judge Sherman reported St. Luke AME Church is willing to start working on the Supervised Visitation Program in CVO cases. Although the church is located across the street from a Precinct, a concerning issue is the level of security offered at the church. There is no security person in the church and no money to hire security. Mary Ann Mendenhall inquired as to who is identifying security as a barrier to supervised visits. She inquired as to whether a report will be issued from the supervised visit program, and suggested an outline for the report including recommendations.

Safe Haven has provided the protocol for supervised visitation.

4. New Projects

- Judge Sherman is interested in the Committee arranging to have the SCAN VAN for free Mammograms during Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October 2013. Rhonda Young will contact St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx to coordinate a date for the Van at Bronx Family Court.

The next meeting of the Gender Fairness Committee is scheduled for June 5, 2013 at 1:15 p.m. in the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Library.

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

TO: Members, Bronx County Gender Fairness Committee's Subcommittee on Supervised Visitation-CVO Cases

SUBJECT Minutes of the November 8, 2013 Subcommittee Meeting

ATTENDEES: Carol Sherman (Chair, FC); Rhonda Albright (CLC); Jamie Bunyan (CLC); Noel Carroll (FC); Mary Jane Cotter (FC); Barbara DeMayo (FC); Carl DiLalla (FC); Catherine Friedman (FC); Laura Fouda (LSNYC-Bronx); Anita Parker (St Luke Church); Lauren Norton-Lerner (FC); Miguel Rodriguez (SH); Laura Russell (LAS); Natasha Wollaston-Stewart (CLC); Edwina Wright (SH)

The minutes of the meeting of September 20, 2013 were accepted and handouts describing the proposed supervised visitation program at St. Luke AME Church and draft referral and reporting forms for the program were distributed. Judge Sherman asked Rhonda Albright to report on the work she and Anita Parker have undertaken to address security issues and identify training resources for the volunteers who will staff the program. Ms. Albright reported that the NYS Supervised Visitation Network (SVN) offers three to four regional training programs each year. The SVN also provides telephone consultation at anytime and maintains an archive of training resources for members. Ms. Albright also contacted the federal Violence Against Women Office which directed her to the website of a federal grantee, the Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange program. That program offers five training videos: Supervising Fathers After Violence; Working with Fathers in Supervised Visitation, Forging Court and Supervised

Visitation Center Collaboration; Supervised Visitation Grants; and Working with Parental Victims after Domestic Violence. In addition, VIP in Bronx County provides violence intervention training two times per year. Judge Sherman stated that she had talked with ACS representatives regarding its training resources for community-based organizations that host family visits on weekends but the ACS representatives were unable to identify the person who coordinates training. Ms. Parker will provide the informational flyer she received from ACS which has contact information.

As to the provision of security at the St Luke program, Ms. Albright reported that she and Ms. Parker met with the Deputy Inspector of the 30<sup>th</sup> Precinct who stated that the NYPD would provide a Police Officer who would walk through the program hourly; an Auxiliary Police Officer during the evening hours of the program from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM; and a Supervisor of the 30<sup>th</sup> Precinct who would sign program logs during regular rounds. In addition, the program will have a direct telephone line to the 30<sup>th</sup> Precinct for use in emergency situations. Ms. Albright and Ms. Parker also met with the Precinct's Domestic Violence Unit which is comprised of a Detective, a Sargent and a Police Officer. The Unit will provide a direct number to the Precinct. It is anticipated that police would arrive in response to a direct call within three to four minutes. In addition, St. Luke's has two separate entrances and exits and closed circuit video cameras. With the strong partnership that the 30<sup>th</sup> Precinct has offered, St. Luke's feels ready to begin. The Deputy Inspector asked for two weeks notice prior to the start of the program. The group commended Ms. Albright and Ms. Parker for their extensive efforts in identifying resources for training and security

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

To: Members of the Gender Fairness Committee's Subcommittee on Supervised Visitation  
Custody/Visitation/Family Offense (CVO) Cases

Re: Minutes of the September 20, 2013 subcommittee meeting

Attendees: Carol Sherman (Chair, FC); Barbara DeMayo (FC); Rhonda Albright (CLC),  
Laura Russell (Legal Aid), Jamie Bunyan (CLC); Noel Carroll (FC); Catherine Friedman (FC); Rhonda Albright (CLC); Lindsay Copeland (FC); Anita Parker (St. Luke Church); Laruent Norton-Lerner (FC); Kimberlina Kavern (Safe Horizon)

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This meeting was convened to discuss the status of the proposed St. Luke Supervised Visitation Program, the draft of the referral form for the program and the presentation of the program to Judges, referees and advocates.

(1) Anita Parker reported that she has reached out to ACS regarding the participation of Church volunteers in the ACS training program for visiting coaches. ACS will get back to her.

(2) The St. Luke Program would like to begin taking referrals for supervised visitation

- The Program has six volunteers currently working and has open dates and times throughout the week.
- Ms. Kavern from Safe Horizon expressed that the Supervised Visitation Network (SVN) was concerned about the St. Luke Program because of the lack of on-site security. The SVN was unwilling to assist with the training and was concerned about referring DV cases and cases with pending Orders of Protection to the Program.
- The committee discussed whether there should be a prohibition against referring cases with pending orders of protection or whether Judges and Referees would use their discretion in referring appropriate cases to the Program.
- The committee discussed that the CFS visitation program does not have on-site security but the supervisors are trained in the appropriate protocol in DV cases. Further, the Court also uses individual social workers and relatives to supervise cases.

- The committee will look into training and security options. Ms. Albright has talked to her father (retired police officer) and will reach out to other possible volunteers for security. She suggested that the Program purchase security wands.

(3) The committee discussed the Overview of the Program and suggested changes and additions to the Overview:

- The language that volunteers are trained by Safe Horizon will be removed from the Overview.
- Guidelines will be added to the Overview. There is concern about visiting parent not appearing although the custodial parent has brought the child(ren) to the visit. The St. Luke Program and Safe Horizon have a policy as to this. The following guideline was suggested: If a party is unable to appear at the visit, he/she shall contact the St. Luke Program at least 8 hours prior to the scheduled visit. The Program will then notify the other party and the absence will not count as a visit. If there are 3 consecutive visits in which a party does not appear without notice prior to the Program, all future visits shall be suspended and the Court shall be notified.

(4) The committee discussed the proposed referral form and suggested changes:

- The committee decided that each party will complete a separate referral form.
- Each form will include information regarding the party and information about the children. If the party's address is confidential he/she will write "confidential address" in the address section. The asterisk and language indicating to keep the address blank will be on the front page of the form.
- The program will be limited, at this time, to those families who speak English and Spanish. A check box will be added to indicate the language spoken by the parties.
- After the parties complete the referral forms, they will then give the forms to the Court or the Clerk for review. The Court/Clerk will fill out the remaining information regarding the parties, child(ren) and attorneys.
- The Court will complete a separate referral form and attach any pending Family Offense petitions and Family Court Orders of Protection, Criminal Court Orders of Protection when available, and the Order of Visitation, the next court date, the part number, and the Jurist's name. The Court may

specify the frequency of visits or the number of visits that should occur prior to the next court date.

- All forms and attachments will then be sent to the Court Clerk's office and will be emailed and faxed to the St. Luke Program.
  - St. Luke will email a report back to the Court which will then be delivered to the Jurist. The return email address for the St. Luke's Program will be on all referral forms.
  - If the St. Luke Program rejects the case, the Program will contact the Court. There is a "drop email" that will be on the referral form for the Program. That is where all correspondence for the Court and Program, including reports, will be sent.
- (5) The committee discussed the reports that would be provided to the Court by the Program. Anita Parker will send Lindsay Copeland a sample of the reports currently used by the Program.
- (6) The committee discussed the presentation of the St. Luke Supervised Visitation Program to the CVO community.
- The committee discussed the best way to present the Program to the CVO community. There were suggestions as to whether it should be presented to the CVO Task Force, at a CVO specialty meeting or whether the larger CVO community should be present. Members thought that a more inclusive meeting of all participants in CVO cases should be present for the presentation, including CLC, 18-b attorneys and Jurists.
  - Judge Sherman will speak with Judge Drinane about scheduling a meeting for the presentation of the Program.
- (7) The October 29, 2013 subcommittee meeting was rescheduled. The next subcommittee meeting will be November 8<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the conference room.
- Prior to the next meeting, Judge Sherman will amend the guidelines with the suggested changes
  - Lindsay Copeland will make changes to the referral forms
  - Anita Parker will send Lindsay Copeland a sample report from the program for the committee to review.

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

To: Members of the Gender Fairness Committee's Subcommittee on Supervised Visitation  
Custody/Visitation/Family Offense (CVO) Cases

Re: Minutes of the June 4, 2013 subcommittee meeting

Attendees: Carol Sherman (Chair, FC); Llinet Rosado (FC); Lauren Norton-Lerner (FC); Natasha Wollaston-Stewart (CLCNY), Jamie Bunyan (CLC); Noel Carroll (FC); Catherine Friedman (FC); Sue Levy (FC); Aweshavez Margaryour (ICNY); Anita Parker (St. Luke Church AME); Edwina Wright (Safe Horizon); Kim Kavern (Safe Horizon); Barbara Demayo (FC); Carl DiLalla (FC); Rhonda Albright (CLC); Lindsay Copeland (FC)

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This meeting was convened to discuss development of the supervised visitation program at St. Luke AME Church. Judge Sherman has spoken to the CVO task force and CVO referees and judges and they expressed great interest in referrals to the program.

Many issues were discussed to determine how to move forward with the program.

(1) Security

- The committee discussed referring cases to the program that were not in need of high security. It was noted that other providers such as CFS do not employ security officers.
- It was suggested that a buzzer system could be placed in the church that would connect to the precinct across the street. Anita Parker said she would discuss this with the precinct. She also stated that police patrol the area.

- The Church currently has security cameras in and around the building that are monitored and there is a person posted outside at all times
- The committee discussed the church reaching out to retired law enforcement officers in its congregation. Ms. Albright stated that she had volunteered her father, a former police officer, and she would also speak with some of his retired colleagues.

## (2) Training

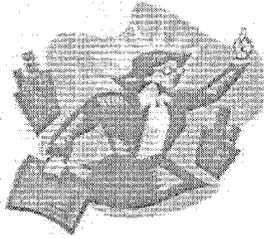
- Safe Horizon representatives stated that Safe Horizon is unable to provide training to the volunteers who will provide the supervision. Training should include issues involving the skills and knowledge required to supervise visits as well as issues of domestic violence. Safe Horizon offered to speak to NYSPCC about providing training. Anita Parker noted that because the supervised pick up and drop off program has not been fully utilized, the number of volunteers has dwindled from 35 to 17.
- Anita Parker said she will look into the Supervised Visitation Network to see if there are individuals who may be able to assist in training. She will develop a proposal with a description of the program and current and ongoing training needs and support. This proposal will then be circulated. The committee discussed exploring social work schools.
- The committee discussed exploring funding for training from the Bronx Borough President and Manhattan Borough President or other resources.

(3) Proposed Guidelines/Protocols- Judge Sherman referred the committee members to the proposed guidelines, which were distributed. The guidelines were to be used in the referral process and included screening by the Judge and referee and the program itself.

- Barbara DeMayo pointed out that Manhattan IDV Court has a Resource Coordinator who refers cases to the St. Luke program. She may attend a future meeting to discuss the IDV screening and referral process.
- The committee discussed developing referral forms for the program and what information is required and who should provide it. There was discussion as to whether counsel for the parties should be required to fill out the referral forms. Forms would also be developed for court reports.
- Anita Parker said she would develop guidelines to assist Judges in determining which families are appropriate for the program. Regulations and protocols for supervised visitation programs are available on the Supervised Visitation website. Some things to consider are whether the child has developmental delays or special needs and whether the family is fluent in English or other languages. After referral, the program would determine if the family is appropriate.

(4) The committee selected the following meeting dates for the remainder of the year. The meetings will be held at 1:10 pm on:

- Wednesday 6/26/13
- Tuesday 7/23/13
- Tuesday 9/17/13
- Tuesday 10/29/13
- Wednesday 12/4/13



## DRESS FOR SUCCESS



The Bronx Family Court Gender Fairness Committee is holding a "Dress for Success" event to run January 28 - February 28, 2014, for the Bronx Branch Office located at 839 East 149<sup>th</sup> Street, Bronx, New York 10455.

"The mission of Dress for Success is to promote the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life."

The organization is in dire need of women's business attire of all sizes, especially plus/large sizes, including collared shirts and blouses.

Donation boxes will be placed in the following designated areas:

7<sup>th</sup> Floor - Interpreters Office

9<sup>th</sup> Floor - Case Coordinators Office

For further information contact:

Hon. Carol Sherman, Chair  
(718) 618- 2200 or [BronxFamilyCourt@nycourts.gov](mailto:BronxFamilyCourt@nycourts.gov)

Rhonda T. Young, Staff Liaison  
(718) 618-2169

Donors may leave a list of items donated and a self-addressed, stamped envelope with contact information in order to receive acknowledgment for tax purposes.

# MAKING THE DIFFERENCE: WORKING WITH FATHERS IN FAMILY COURT

Thursday, February 5, 2014, 1:05 to 2:45 pm  
Bronx Family Court, 5th Floor Library

## *Opening Remarks:*

**Hon. Gayle P. Roberts and Hon. Carol Sherman, Committee Chairs**

## *Presenters:*

**Mara Fleder, Law Graduate, The Bronx Defenders**

**Martin B., Parent Advocate**

**Charles Greene, Director, Young Father's Program,  
Claremont Neighborhood Centers**

**Keston Jones, Parent Advocate, Focus on Fathers Project,  
The Bronx Defenders**

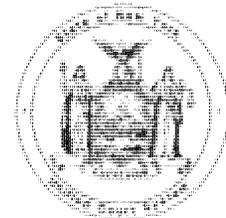
**William Henry, Family Engagement Specialist,  
Center for the Development of Human Services**

For more  
information,  
contact:  
Dorise D'Amico  
CWCIP Liaison  
(718) 619-2175  
ddizuno@  
courts.state.ny.us

## **Registration is required. Go to:**

**<http://7.selectsurvey.net/nycourts/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=9430m92>**

*This program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the NYS Continuing Legal Education Board for a maximum of 1 CREDIT HOUR which can be applied toward the Area of Professional Practice Requirement. This complimentary training is appropriate for both newly admitted and experienced attorneys. The Appellate Division, First Department, is an accredited continuing Legal Education Provider.*



Co-sponsored by:  
Bronx Family Court  
The Bronx DMR Committee  
The Bronx Gender Fairness Committee  
The Appellate Division, First Department  
NYS Unified Court System's Child Welfare Court Improvement Project

*New York Family Court Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Gloria Sosa-Lintner, Chair**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**2013 - 2014**

**Name of the Committee:** New York County Family Court Gender Fairness Committee

**Name and Title of Chair:** Hon. Gloria Sosa-Lintner

**Members:**

Hon. Gloria Sosa-Lintner, Judge of the Family Court, New York County, Chair  
Hon. Douglas Hoffman, Supervising Judge of New York County Family Court  
Danielle Rodriguez, Supervising Court Attorney for New York County and for Judge Hoffman  
Wilfredo Suarez, Court Attorney for Judge Sosa-Lintner  
Veronica Bullard, Assistant Deputy Clerk, Self-Represented Services-Support  
Kecia Ettiene, Senior Court Clerk, Permanency Planning Division

**Dates of Meetings:** The Committee is being revitalized and is planning for 2014.

**What are your plans for 2014?**

Recruit persons who are interested in the issues of Gender Fairness and other related concerns in our Court. Outreach to other interested entities so that the committee may be more inclusive. Review the programs of other Gender Fairness Committees and develop programming as determined by the membership.

*Queens Family Court*  
*Women in the Courts/Gender Fairness Committee*

**Hon. Margaret McGowan, Chair**

To: Charlotte Watson  
From: Hon. Margaret McGowan, Chair  
June M. Briese, Co-Chair  
Date: February 21, 2014

Dear Charlotte,

In reply to your e-mail, please find the following information regarding what meetings we had in 2013 and some of our ideas for meetings in 2014:

### **2013**

1. We had 18 B Attorney Meryl Kovit's presentation regarding the history of Queens County Family Court. Ms. Kovit had already written several articles on this topic for the Queens County Bar Bulletin. She gave an in depth history of our Court in Queens, as to how it came about and what it was like then and how it evolved into the Court that it is today. This was Part 1 of her presentation. Ms. Kovit was scheduled to speak to us again in 2013, however, she had not completed all of her research to do another presentation bringing our Court into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. She is scheduled to speak before our group again this year.

2. We participated in the Gay-Straight Alliance of the NYS Justice System in conjunction with the Queens Supreme Court, Queens Civil Court, Queens Criminal Court and Queens Family Court. Councilman Daniel Dromm was the Guest Speaker as Representative of the 25<sup>th</sup> District in Queens. Also, Hon. Jimmy Van Bramer, NYC Council Member spoke as well as Marc Levine who works within the Court system. The topic was centered around the lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender rights and visibility in the court system. We have come a long way and will continue our efforts to advance in welcoming all persons of any gender within our Courts.

3. We had Judge Toko Serita scheduled to speak to us on Human Sex Trafficking, however, she had a conference to attend out of town and we decided to re-schedule her presentation to 2014.

### **2014**

1. Many employees have requested that we have someone speak to us regarding financial planning and we are working to schedule Madison Planning Group, Inc., with our guest speaker Gary Schwartz, CEO of this Company. He will touch upon topics such as how to: manage our money, reduce exposure to investment fluctuation, set realistic financial goals, plan for a financially secure retirement, maximize our workplace benefits package and explain to us how to make the most of what we have financially.

2. Meryl Kovit will be speaking to us on Part 2 of her presentation on the History of Queens Family Court and how much it has improved over the years. She will explain how

Queens Family Court has evolved in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and how far we have come from the first Family Court in Queens.

3. Many of our employees, court attorneys and staff have requested a seminar on how to reduce our stress in the workplace. Sandra Munoz a certified yoga instructor will lead us in how to meditate and teach us yoga which will hopefully reduce our stress. This seminar has been requested by so many employees that we decided to include it in our seminar list.

4. Safe Horizons will present a seminar regarding how technology is used to stalk women and people in general and what we can do to protect ourselves. Since technology is constantly changing at such a rapid pace, they will bring us the latest technological information for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century that we need to be aware of to shield us from the stalkers and scammers.

We are in the process of setting up meetings to be able to offer seminars which are of interest to all of us at Queens County Family Court.

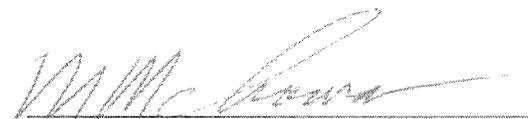
**Members of this Committee**

- Hon. Margaret McGowan, Chair
- June M. Briese, Co-Chair
- Aileen Kelly
- Debra Edwards
- Latoya Stephens
- Rachel Gordon

We have also spoken to other people and have encouraged them to join our Committee.

As of now we have not been using video conferencing. We normally have between 10-20 people attend our meetings. The problem being is that there are other activities going on in the court house during lunchtime. Also, many attorneys work through their lunch hour and cannot attend. We will also look into combining our meetings with the Queens County Bar Assoc. CLE meetings at lunchtime at their building.

Thank you for all your work in coordinating these committees for Women in the Courts/Gender Fairness for the various courts. We appreciate your ongoing assistance and dedication.

  
Margaret McGowan, Chair

  
June M. Briese, Co-Chair

Come Celebrate the 2013

# Gay Pride in the Queens Courts!

*Sponsored by*

**The Alliance – the Gay/Straight Alliance of the  
NYS Courts**

*Co-Sponsored by*

**NYS Judicial Committee on Women in the Courts/ Gender  
Fairness Committee**

And

**Women in the Courts/Gender Fairness Committee of Queens  
Family Court**

And

**The Gender Fairness Committee of Queens Supreme Court,  
Civil Term**

and

**The Gender Fairness Committee of Queens Civil Court**

and

**The Gender Fairness Committee of Queens Criminal Court**

*Welcoming Remarks*

**Hon. Jeremy Weinstein, Administrative Judge of Queens Supreme Court, Civil Term**

*Featuring the Following Speakers*

**Hon. Daniel Dromm, NY City Council Member**

**Hon. Jimmy Van Bramer, NYC Council Member**

**Dirk McCall, LGBT Activist**

*Food, drink and dessert will be served!*

**Friday, June 14, 2013 at 1:00 PM**

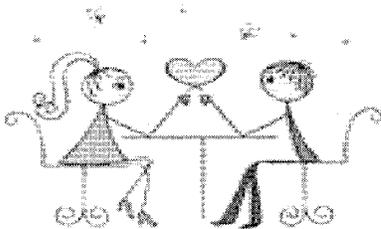
**Queens Supreme Court**

**88-11 Sutphin Blvd., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Courtroom 63**

**Queens Family Court  
Women in the Courts/Gender Fairness Committee**

*Presents*

**First Comes Love, Then Comes Family Court**  
The Relevance of Family Court in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



Family Court

*Keynote Speaker*  
**Meryl Kovit, Esq.**

**Monday, June 17, 2013**  
**1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
**Part 4, Room 290**

*Join Us for Healthy Snacks  
and to Hear About the History That Led to the  
Establishment of the Family Court in 1962*