

19TH ANNUAL MEETING

National Consortium on Racial and
Ethnic Fairness in the Courts



Theme artwork created by Halima Cassells

Saving Our Children: Justice and
Fair Treatment of Youth in the Courts

MAY 2-5, 2007

MARRIOTT NEW YORK AT THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

The Chief Judge of the State of New York



Judith S. Kaye

December 15, 2006

Dear Colleague:

As Chief Judge, and a proud supporter of our outstanding Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities, I am pleased to invite you to the 19th Annual Conference of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts (NCREFC), which the Commission and the court system will be co-hosting. The Conference will take place from Wednesday, May 2, to Saturday, May 5, 2007, at the Marriott Hotel at the Brooklyn Bridge in New York City.

Beautiful as the location is, and great as our City is, what really excites us is the Conference theme: "*Saving our Children: Justice and Fair Treatment of Youth in the Courts.*" It is difficult to imagine a more important subject today.

Only months ago, our Commission hosted a local conference on a similar topic, which drew well over 250 participants, representing judges, prosecuting and defense lawyers, foster care agencies, academics, probation offices, and community and faith-based organizations. Attention focused on the disproportionate number of minority youth in the family and criminal court systems. The overwhelming response to that conference prompted the Commission to seek a larger, national dialogue on these issues.

The upcoming Conference will draw representatives from across the United States, bringing cross-cultural and cross-generational voices to the table. Through nationally renowned speakers and stimulating workshops, we hope to find pathways to solutions on these vexing issues facing our youth and our society.

We very much look forward to having you with us here in New York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith S. Kaye".



NATIONAL CONSORTIUM

THE FRANKLIN H. WILLIAMS JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON MINORITIES (COMMISSION), in conjunction with the New York State Unified Court System, will host the 19th Annual Conference of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts (NCREFC). The conference will take place from Wednesday, May 2 to Saturday, May 5, 2007. The conference will be held at the Marriott Hotel New York at the Brooklyn Bridge.

THE THEME OF THE CONFERENCE IS "SAVING OUR CHILDREN: JUSTICE AND FAIR TREATMENT OF YOUTH IN THE COURTS." Since the creation of the Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) initiative in 1989, there has been a national debate on the large number of youth of color (primarily Black and Latino) in the foster care, juvenile and criminal justice systems. The purpose of the initiative was to assist states to reduce the disproportionate number of children of color being placed in secured confinement. Since that time, the DMC issue has generated heated discussions-often polarizing otherwise cohesive groups of people due to denial, fear, or simple lack of information.

EVERY DAY WE ARE BOMBARDED WITH NEGATIVE NEWS COVERAGE OF YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE AND CRIMINAL COURT SYSTEMS. The statistics highlight the disproportionate number of youth of color who are charged with offenses and/or put into secured detention. The statistics also show that these youth receive disparate sentences for similar offenses committed by others.

THE NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION WILL WELCOME REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FIFTY STATES, bringing cross-cultural and cross-generational voices to the table to offer insight on some of the issues facing our youth within the court systems. The conference will feature nationally renowned speakers who will stimulate dialogue and solutions on these issues. These speakers will address issues faced by municipalities, educational institutions, governmental agencies/departments, community-based agencies, media, and court systems. Some of the speakers include United States Congressman, Charles B. Rangel; United States District Judge, Honorable Dora L. Irizarry; Chief Judge of New York Court of Appeals, Honorable Judith S. Kaye; Honorable Byron Brown, Mayor of Buffalo; and Dr. Jeremy Travis, President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

These speakers will address issues faced by municipalities, educational institutions, governmental agencies/departments, community-based agencies, media, and court systems.

SOME OF THE SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- **Honorable Charles B. Rangel**
United States Congressman
- **Honorable Dora L. Irizarry**
United States District Judge
- **Honorable Judith S. Kaye**
Chief Judge of New York Court of Appeals
- **Honorable Byron Brown**
Mayor of Buffalo
- **Jeremy Travis**
President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Photos from the 18th Annual Meeting of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts in Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2006.



AGENDA - 19TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONSORTIUM

Wednesday, May 2

2:00 P.M.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

4:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

WELCOME RECEPTION

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

Honorable Marilyn Kelly

*Justice of the Supreme Court, State of Michigan
President-National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness
in the Courts*

Honorable Lewis L. Douglass

Chair-Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities

Thursday, May 3

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

8:00 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

8:30 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.

OPENING SESSION

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

PRESENTATION OF COLORS AND INVOCATION

High School Color Guard/Court Officers

WELCOMING REMARKS

Honorable Marilyn Kelly

Honorable Lewis L. Douglass

Honorable Ariel E. Belen

*Vice Chair- Franklin H. Williams
Judicial Commission On Minorities*

Overview of the History of Children in the Courts

9:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Jeremy Travis

President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

10:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

BREAK

11:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

PLENARY SESSION

Teen Violence, the Media, and the Courts

12:30 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

LUNCH

SPEAKER

Honorable Byron Brown-Mayor

Buffalo, New York

2:15 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- I. Cultural and Language Barriers to Justice
- II. Alternatives to Incarcerations and Mentoring Programs
- III. Teen Violence and the Media
- IV. Collateral Consequences for Youth

6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

RECEPTION/BUFFET

Hosted by the Association of the
Bar of the City New York

INTRODUCTION OF BAR ASSOCIATION LEADERS:

Barry Kamins, Esq.

*President-The Association of the Bar of the
City of New York*

ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC FAIRNESS IN THE COURTS

Friday, May 4

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

8:00 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

8:30 A.M. - 9:15 A.M.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Councilman John Liu*

Flushing, New York

9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

COMMUNITY COURT VISITS

Red Hook Community Court

Red Hook, Brooklyn

Domestic Violence Court

Supreme Court, Brooklyn

Drug Court

Supreme Court, Brooklyn

Midtown Court

Midtown, New York City

Harlem Community Court

Harlem, New York City

12:30 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.

LUNCH

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

SPEAKER

Honorable Dora L. Irizarry

*United States District Court
Eastern District*

1:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- I. People of Color in the Profession
- II. Elementary and High School Programs Focusing on Law, the Courts, and the Community
- III. Disproportionate Number of Minority Youth in the Family and Criminal Court Systems

3:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

BREAK

3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

STATE REPORTS: PROMISING PRACTICES

6:00 P.M.

RECEPTION AND CLOSING BANQUET

Marriott Hotel New York
at the Brooklyn Bridge

**THE FRANKLIN H. WILLIAMS DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE AWARD PRESENTED TO**

Honorable Judith S. Kaye

Chief Judge, New York State Court of Appeals

SPEAKER

Congressman Charles B. Rangel

*Newly Appointed Chair of Ways and Means
Committee, United States Congress*

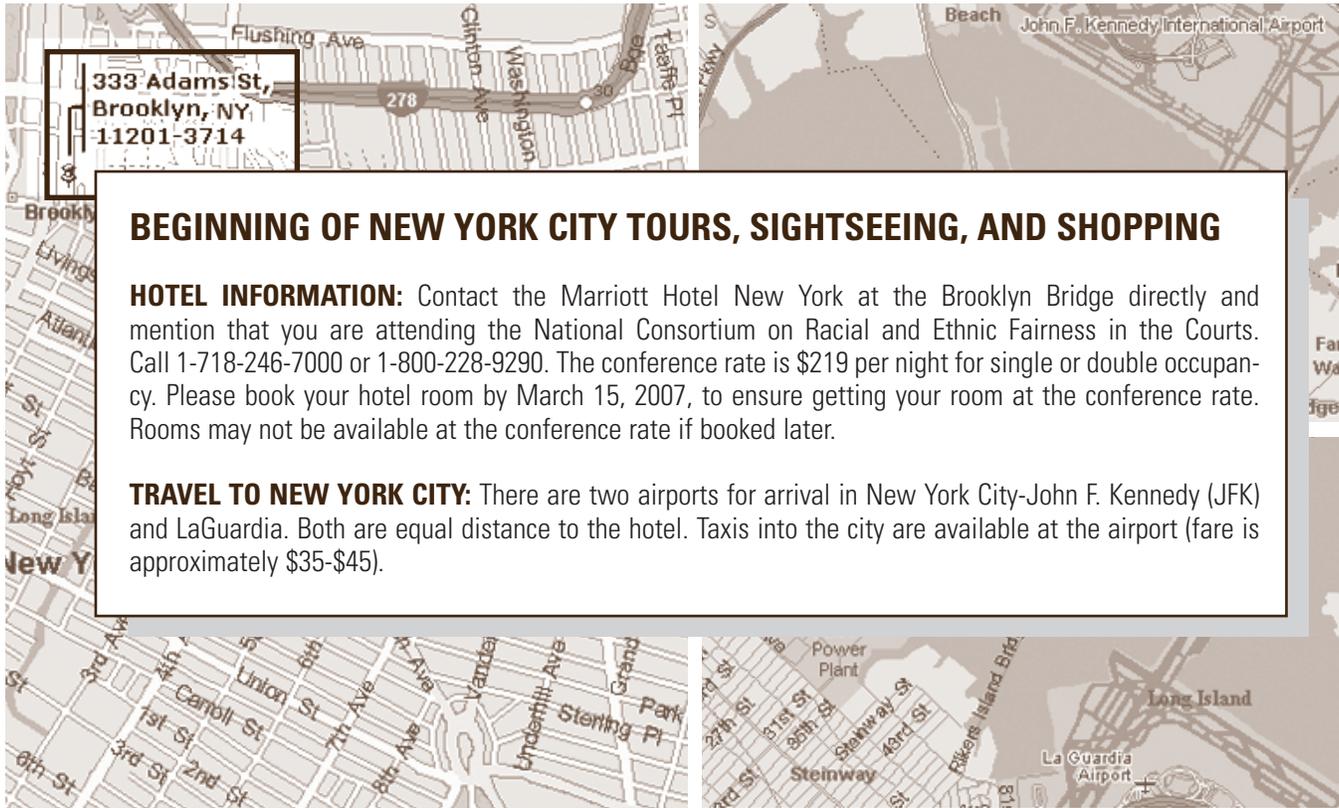
* Invited

WWW.CONSORTIUMONLINE.NET

AGENDA - NATIONAL CONSORTIUM

Saturday, May 5

8:00 A.M. - 8:30 A.M. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST	10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. NATIONAL CONSORTIUM BOARD MEETING
8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. CLOSING PLENARY SESSION Marriott Hotel New York at the Brooklyn Bridge	12:30 P.M. CONCLUSION OF THE 19TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC FAIRNESS IN THE COURTS
10:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M. BREAK	



**333 Adams St,
Brooklyn, NY
11201-3714**

BEGINNING OF NEW YORK CITY TOURS, SIGHTSEEING, AND SHOPPING

HOTEL INFORMATION: Contact the Marriott Hotel New York at the Brooklyn Bridge directly and mention that you are attending the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts. Call 1-718-246-7000 or 1-800-228-9290. The conference rate is \$219 per night for single or double occupancy. Please book your hotel room by March 15, 2007, to ensure getting your room at the conference rate. Rooms may not be available at the conference rate if booked later.

TRAVEL TO NEW YORK CITY: There are two airports for arrival in New York City-John F. Kennedy (JFK) and LaGuardia. Both are equal distance to the hotel. Taxis into the city are available at the airport (fare is approximately \$35-\$45).



Registration Form

National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts

MAY 2-5 2007 • MARRIOTT HOTEL, BROOKLYN, NY

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. FAX:

757-259-1520 (Open 24 hours)

2. INTERNET:

www.consortiumonline.net

3. MAIL:

National Consortium on
Racial and Ethnic Fairness
in the Courts
c/o National Center
for State Courts
300 Newport Avenue
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185
Phone: 757-259-1841
800-616-6165

The registration information is also
available online at the Franklin H.
Williams Judicial Commission on
Minorities website:

www.nycourts.gov/ip/minorities

Telephone: 212-428-2790

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
PREFIX	FIRST NAME	MI	LAST NAME

<input type="text"/>
NAME BADGE (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)

<input type="text"/>
GUEST/SPOUSE NAME(S)

<input type="text"/>
COURT/COMPANY/TITLE

<input type="text"/>
ADDRESS

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CITY	STATE	ZIP	COUNTRY

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: KOSHER VEGETARIAN

REGISTRATION FEES

\$300 (IF RECEIVED BY MARCH 31, 2007)

\$375 (IF RECEIVED AFTER MARCH 31, 2007)

\$150 ATTORNEYS FOR CLE CREDITS (ONLY INCLUDES PLENARY AND WORKSHOP SESSIONS)

\$150 GUEST OF REGISTRANT FEE (ONLY INCLUDES NAME BADGE, LUNCHEONS, RECEPTIONS AND DINNER)

TICKETS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE (THURSDAY, MAY 3 LUNCHEON, \$50.00; FRIDAY, MAY 4, LUNCHEON, \$65.00; FRIDAY, MAY 4, BANQUET, \$100.00)

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS (FEDERAL TAX ID: 52-0914250), VISA, MC, AMERICAN EXPRESS

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CREDIT CARD NUMBER	EXPIRATION DATE	CCV# <small>(Credit Card Verification Number - last three digits on back of card)</small>	AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

Cancellations and Refunds: IF YOU FIND THAT YOU MUST CANCEL YOUR REGISTRATION, PLEASE SEND A WRITTEN NOTICE OF CANCELLATION VIA FAX BY 5 P.M. ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE EVENT. A REFUND, MINUS A FIFTY-DOLLAR (\$50) PROCESSING CHARGE, WILL BE ISSUED.

DEAR COLLEAGUES:

The Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities is proud to host the 19th Annual Meeting of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts (NCREFC) in New York City in the Borough of Brooklyn. We are especially proud to welcome representatives from the fifty (50) states to convene in the state of one of NCREFC's founders and the namesake of our commission—Franklin H. Williams.

In 1987, the Chief Judge of New York appointed Franklin H. Williams to chair the New York Judicial Commission on Minorities. In 1988, Mr. Williams brought together his counterparts from New Jersey (Judge Theodore Z. Davis), Michigan (Judge Harold Hood), and Washington (Justice Charles Z. Smith) to form the National Consortium of Task Forces and Commissions on Racial and Ethnic Bias in the Courts (later renamed the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts). In subsequent years, various states have hosted NCREFC and addressed current issues facing the courts.

In September 2006, the Commission hosted a local conference on the Disproportionate Number of Minority Youth in the Family and Criminal Court Systems. Over two hundred and sixty five (265) attendees representing family court judges, district attorney offices, foster care agencies, law schools, probation offices, and community and faith-based organizations discussed this topic and offered recommendations for solutions. Based on the overwhelming response to the speakers and workshops, the Commission decided to promote a national dialogue on these issues—Saving Our Children: Justice and Fair Treatment of Youth in the Courts. We invite you to join us in this dialogue and the development of recommendations for solutions.

Sincerely,

HON. LEWIS L. DOUGLASS, CHAIR



Pictured from left to right: Hon. Ariel E. Belen, Vice-Chair; Hon. Charles J. Tejada; Hon. Rose H. Sconiers; Felix C. Fernandez; Hon. Eduardo Padro; Joyce Y. Hartsfield; Hon. Lewis L. Douglass, Chair; Rene Myatt, Esq.; Hon. yvonne lewis; William H. Etheridge; Hon. Richard B. Lowe III and Karlene Dennis. Not pictured: Pamela D. Hayes, Esq.; Lenore Kramer, Esq.; Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan; Dr. Maria Ramirez and Hon. Troy K. Webber.

OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION

Franklin H. Williams Judicial Commission on Minorities

25 Beaver Street, Room 861

New York, New York 10004

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Hon. Lewis L. Douglass
Chair

Hon. Ariel E. Belen
Vice-Chair

William H. Etheridge
Felix C. Fernandez
Pamela D. Hayes, Esq.
Lenore Kramer, Esq.
Hon. yvonne lewis
Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan
Hon. Richard B. Lowe III
Rene Myatt, Esq.
Hon. Eduardo Padro
Dr. Maria Ramirez
Hon. Rose H. Sconiers
Hon. Charles J. Tejada
Hon. Troy K. Webber

Joyce Y. Hartsfield
Executive Director

Karlene Dennis
Associate Counsel